Pulman's View from Seaton & Beer

Issue 282 Est. 2005 PICK UP YOUR FREE COPY plus Property View Tuesday, December 21st 2010

Wishing all our readers a very MERRY CHRISTMAS

NEXT ISSUE OUT ON THURSDAY DECEMBER 30TH

IT'S TIME FOR RESTORATION

Hopes to bring town's Jubilee clock back to its former glory — weather and budget permitting

By ANDERS LARSSON
anders@tindlenews.co.uk

IT is hoped that a silent Seaton landmark will be restored to its former glory in February next year.

Weather and budget permitting, East Devon District Council (EDDC) plans to carry out both internal and external work on the clock tower in Jubilee Gardens.

The clock's familiar hourly chime has been absent for some time, and a specialist clock repairer is required to put things right.

But external work is also needed, and EDDC bosses hope to do it all in one go early next year.

Members of Seaton and District Chamber of Commerce are keen for the clock to be at its best.

Chamber secretary Gaynor Sedgwick said: "The historic Jubilee clock has stopped chiming

"The visitors love the clock, it is a Seaton landmark."

She approached EDDC on behalf of the chamber and was told that EDDC would continue to maintain the clock.

But repairs won't be carried out this year, and an EDDC spokesperson explained the situation by saying: "We believe that the chime has been out of action since early October, though the exact date is unknown.

"A steel cable which is linked to the striking hammer inside the clock tower has snapped.

"This repair work can only be done by a specialist clock repairer and due to the height will require an access hoist.

"Because of the cost of the access hoist it makes economic sense to carry out high level external maintenance such as cyclical redecorating of timber and metalwork at the same time.

"The total estimated cost of the works is £2,500 plus VAT, including clock repairs and external maintenance.

"Weather and budget permitting, the work will be done in February 2011."

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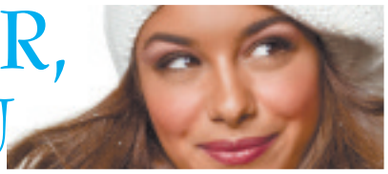

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died peacefully on Friday 10th December 2010 in Wonford Hospital, Exeter, aged 85 years, of Axminster.

Wife of the late Gordon Oxley, a much loved mother of Christopher, Nicola, Robin, Russell & Tryphena, a loving Nan & Great Nan.

Funeral service to be held at Axminster Parish Church on **Wednesday 22nd December at 1.30pm** followed by interment in Axminster Cemetery.

Flowers or if desired donations to Critical Care Unit Hospital, Exeter, c/o J F Clarke & Son, Maryknoll, Lyme Street, Axminster E13 5AU or at the service.

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Charmaine XXX

Peter Jeffery.
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Mum, Dad, Andrew and Chris XXXX

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Ricky Littley for Dec 25th.
With lots of love
from Nan and Granddad XXX

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a Happy Christmas.
Good luck to those starting school

Happy 3rd Birthday,
Nigel Chard on 25th Dec.
Love from
Daddy and Faye XX

Happy 13th Birthday
Richard Bass
22/12/10
Love from Mum, Dad and James

To Freya
Happy 1st Birthday
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from Nanny and Grandad

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Anita
Happy Christmas Mummy
Love from Ellie
XXX

Happy 40th Birthday, 27th Dec
Laura Best
Love you lots
Mum, Dad and all the family

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Plan for a new kiosk at RNLI is submitted

By BEN MIDDLETON
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THE Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) kiosk at Jubilee Gardens, Beer, is set to be replaced if a planning application is approved.

An application to replace the existing kiosk was lodged with East Devon District Council (EDDC) on Wednesday last.

Chris Adams, of the RNLI, said: "For over 10-years the RNLI seasonal sales kiosk at Jubilee Gardens has successfully generated income for the charity. Income of this nature is vital to ensure that the institute continues to provide search and rescue services to all areas of the country.

"The existing kiosk requires replacement due to its age and condition, and to ensure its appearance does not negatively affect the surrounding area."

Mr Adams added that new unit would be a like-for-like replacement of the existing unit and he also said that the RNLI was keen to start work as soon as possible.

He said: "The new unit will be placed in exactly the same position as the existing kiosk on the car park at Jubilee Gardens.

"The RNLI is keen to carry out these works as soon as possible to take advantage of the out of season, quiet, period.

"This also allows for the works to be undertaken while the usage of the council car park is less busy."

◆ SIXTH form students at Colyton Grammar School have been learning about how the school was constructed in 1612. Local historian Colin Pady visited the grammar school and gave a talk about its history. His presentation centered on the origins of the school and its building costs. Mr Pady is pictured with year 13 history students at the school

Lions hold cabaret eve

SEATON and District Lions Club held a table top sale and cabaret event at Seaton Town Hall on Saturday, December 11th.

A spokesman for the club said: "The table top sale was very popular and people were able to buy Christmas gifts and cards.

"At around 7.30pm 120 or more guests sat down to enjoy a three-course meal which had been prepared by Lions Alan Mace with help from Lions Judy Foley and Rosemary Partridge-Hogbin and was served by Lions friends."

Entertainment during the cabaret evening was provided by Lez the Fez, a table magician, Bruce Thompson, a comedy entertainer, and guitar and keyboard duo Hee Shee.

All funds raised from the event will be donated to charities supported by the Lions Club.

Town's total

THE Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal has announced that the total raised in Colyton District this year was a record — £5,174.11.

Colyton District also includes Colyford, Northleigh, Southleigh, Shute and Whitford - and the amount raised was £70 more than the previous year.

A spokesperson for the appeal said: 'My sincere thanks go to our collectors and to all who gave so generously."

New collectors are always welcome and more information is available from Miss Griffin on 01297 553 037.

Students score top marks in geography competition

GEOGRAPHY students from Colyton Grammar School have scored top marks in a recent competition.

Eight AS Level students headed to Teignmouth, south Devon, recently, to take part in an inter-school competition, in conjunction with Teignbridge District Council.

As part of the competition the students were tasked with finding a way to redevelop a brownfield site, making sure it was sustainable and as viable as possible.

The group presented two different ideas and one was chosen as the winning project.

Head of geography at Colyton Grammar, Rex Stidwell, said: "It was a fantastic day, with degree level standards of planning seen, and I feel very proud to come home with the winning team."

The winning team will now attend a town planning conference in the new year.

Society's first film of 2011

TAMARA Drewe will be Beer Film Society's first screening of new year.

The first screening of 2011 will take place on Monday, January 24th at Steamers Restaurant, Beer.

More information about Beer Film Society is available by emailing anneandmartin@hotmail.com

Thank you for keeping us all warm and fed this year. Please don't forget to support your local charity so that they can help other cats and kittens next year too.

Honiton Cats Protection
01404 45241
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Police make excuses on council criticism

By ANDERS LARSSON
anders@tindlenews.co.uk

AXMINSTER'S top cop says that operational reasons prevented a senior officer from attending Axminster Town Council to inform it about the front office closure.

As reported last week, police have decided to close front offices at stations in Axminster, Seaton, Ottery and Sidmouth — but the Honiton office will remain open.

Across the force area, Devon and Cornwall Police will retain 23 front offices and close 34.

Inspector Antonia Weeks informed *Pulman's View* in the early afternoon of Monday, December 13th.

Axminster Town Council met later that day, and members were informed of the closures by PC Darren Herridge, who had been given a statement to read.

Councillors rate PC Herridge very highly, but some felt that Sergeant Peter Trudgeon or Inspector Antonia Weeks should have attended and made the announcement in person.

Councillor John Jeffery said that for senior officers to only send a statement for PC Herridge to read out was "an insult to the town council" and "bad manners".

Inspector Weeks said the force-wide announcement was made on the same day as the meeting and PC Herridge was in a position to personally deliver the message as part of his role.

Councillor Jeffery has form for giving the constabulary and its partners a rough ride, having made headlines in the past.

His 'rap sheet' includes branding a community safety partnership "a talking shop" and describing a senior police officer as "a politician".

Sergeant Trudgeon commented: "John [Jeffery] is one of the key people in the town and has always been outspoken in his view about police management.

"Due to operational reasons it was not possible to have a senior officer attend the town council meeting.

"The fact is that the information relating to the closure was released by the media during the day and the reasons for the closure were already public knowledge.

"The review was started in February and John and the mayor, Ron Jones, were consulted during the process."

The date for the front office closure at Axminster Police Station has not been confirmed, only that it will be no later than June 15th.

Moped driver injured by car

A WOMAN was rushed to hospital after the moped she was riding collided with a car on Thursday morning.

The crash took place on the A35 Kings Road heading into Honiton, close to the junction at Pine Park Road, during the morning rush hour just after 8am.

The moped rider was taken to the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital.

Her injuries are not thought to be life threatening.

Woodburner causes blaze

FIREFIGTHERS from Honiton were called to reports of a chimney fire at a farm house in Gittisham.

The incident took place just before 4.30pm on Thursday, December 16th.

The fire involved a woodburning stove and was extinguished using chimney gear and a thermal image camera.

Crews attend chimney fire

FIREFIGHTERS from Honiton were called to reports of a chimney fire at a property in Combe Raleigh.

The incident took place just after 6pm on Wednesday, December 15th.

The fire involved a wood burning stove. The fire crew dealt with the fire using chimney gear and a thermal imaging camera.

Three arrested on drugs bust

THREE people were arrested on suspicion of drug offences when Axminster police staged overnight operations.

Supported by traffic officers, the dog unit and automatic number plate recognition-equipped units, operations were carried out overnight between December 6th and 7th, and December 7th and 8th.

A total of 16 officers were involved and a number of cars were stopped as part of the operations.

One individual was arrested on suspicion of possessing heroin, and another person was arrested on suspicion of being unfit to drove plus on suspicion of possessing Class A and B drugs.

A third person was arrested on suspicion of possessing cannabis.

All have been bailed pending forensic analysis.

Thieves leave empty-handed

BURGLARS left commercial premises at Seaton Junction empty-handed but caused almost £400 worth of damage.

Police say that burglars entered the premises at about 3am on Monday, December 13th.

A forklift truck was used to smash a wall to another unit within the premises, but an alarm activated.

Anyone who may have made observations that could help investigators is asked to call 08452 777 444 and ask for Axminster police.

When calling quote crime reference is KA/10/650.

Motorist gets fined and has car seized after driving on airfield

By BEN MIDDLETON
ben@tindlenews.co.uk

A MOTORIST has been fined £200 and has had his vehicle seized after driving erratically at Dunkeswell Airfield.

Police based in Honiton witnessed the offence that took place at around 9.30pm on Saturday, December 18th.

The motorist, from Bridport, was driving a white Vauxhall Vivaro.

A spokesman for Honiton police said: "This is a warning to all drivers that the police and the landowners at Dunkeswell Airfield and the surrounding industrial estates will not tolerate anti-social driving at any time, especially during these cold and icy conditions.

"The landowner of the airfield has suffered damage to the strip lights on the run way. Also a business owner had two windows smashed due to grit and gravel being thrown up by the wheels on the motor vehicles and hitting the glass.

"This driver was identified by using CCTV on the industrial estate and will pay £200 towards the damage caused.

"Anti social driving is an offence which can lead to having your vehicle seized and the driver being summoned to court.

"This can involve paying for the recovery of your vehicle, a fine at court and points on your licence.

"So the message is — please do not drive on the runway at Dunkeswell airfield or drive in an anti social manner in and around the industrial estates."

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Double scoop as two projects win Big Lottery cash

By ANDERS LARSSON
anders@tindlenews.co.uk

TWO organisations in *Pulman's Country* have scooped a total of £17,000 from the Big Lottery Fund's Awards for All programme.

Axe Vale and District Conservation Society received a £7,000 grant, and Upottery Playing Fields Association netted £10,000.

A Big Lottery Fund spokesperson said: "Axe Vale and District Conservation Society will use the funding to create a path and interpretation board at Seaton Borrow Pit, a wildlife pond.

"This will improve access for those with mobility issues and encourage more people to visit the site.

"The Upottery Playing Fields Association will use the funding to convert a portable classroom structure into permanent changing and refreshment facilities for the village's new recreation ground.

"This will provide the local community with access to new facilities that will enable more activities to take place on the grounds and will encourage increased participation."

A total of 84 organisations in the southwest were successful with their applications and got a slice of the £600,000 plus payout.

Mark Cotton, southwest head of Big Lottery Fund,said: "This funding is a great early Christmas present for these groups who are going to be able to use their grants to make a big difference.

"I would encourage any other groups and charities in the region that are looking for funding for community projects to apply to our Awards for All programme and make their ideas a reality."

"The Awards for All programme offers grants of between £300 and £10,000 to social and environmental projects that will benefit local communities and make a difference to the lives of those most in need. "Voluntary and community groups, schools, health organisations and parish and town councils can all apply."

Online information is available at www.biglotteryfund.org.uk.

◆ THE girls of Colyton 1st Brownies visited the Garden Shop in Colyton recently for a fun event. The shop provided artificial snow for them to have fun with. The Brownie Sixers are pictured as they mix up the artificial snow

Community pub voted as best local boozer

AN east Devon pub has been voted Go Local champion in a nationwide competition.

The Yarcombe Inn claimed the Best Local Pub award in a competition organised by cottages4you.co.uk.

A spokesman for the competition organisers said: "Throughout the summer cottages4you has been collating a Go Local guide, championing independent businesses which help make people's holidays memorable.

"The guide is a collection of customer recommendations of places to go, things to do and places to eat and drink whilst on holiday or at home."

Mark Palmer, Go Local judge, said: "The Yarcombe Inn stood out as a clear winner in their category, offering warm, community spirit in a cosy traditional setting. The pub is such a focal point for the community and combines delicious local food with a warm staff welcome at any time of day - all key ingredients for a great pub."

Ken Jones, from the Yarcombe Inn, said: "I and the rest of the entire committee are absolutely delighted with the award - it makes all the hard work worth while."

The pub has been presented with a £1,000 grant for winning the competition.

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A business leader gives out awards at ceremony

◆ AXE Valley Community College award winners with Messrs Smith and Styles

By ANDERS LARSSON
anders@tindlenews.co.uk

AN Axminster business leader has stressed the importance of being able to talk to people face-to-face instead of only relying on text messaging, emails, Facebook and so on.

The message was delivered by Axminster Tool Centre MD Ian Styles when he addressed Axe Valley Community College's presentation ceremony for the previous academical year on Wednesday, December 8th.

Mr Styles was a student at the college in the late 1960s and was, until recently, a governor there.

In fact, he was part of the panel that interviewed and hired headteacher Martin Smith — so the two men sharing the stage were no strangers to each other.

The Axminster college specialises in business and enterprise, and one subject covered by Mr Styles was what qualities are needed for young people to thrive in business.

Mr Styles explained that being able to communicate and talk to people face-to-face — and not rely solely on email and such — is important.

He added: "If you set up in business, being able to add up is also good."

Overall, he summed up by saying: "The important thing is to find out what you are good at.

"Once you have done that everything else will fall into place."

As an example, he said the he is very poor at spelling, but can calculate percentages very quickly, which has been very useful to him.

Mr Smith had started proceedings by welcoming the crowd and wishing he was taller.

He said that some people might have difficulty seeing him behind the lectern, adding: "A few more inches would give me a better presence."

He looked back on a successful year and praised the friendliness, politeness, optimism and commitment of young people in Axe Valley.

He also referred to the happiness displayed during long-lasting snowball fights on the field the previous Thursday, which also involved staff.

After the opening speeches, teachers Greg Horn and Laura White shared citation reading duties as awardees were invited on stage to collect their awards from Mr Styles.

KS4 PRIZES:

David Gibbons Cup for Merit: Adam Kana-ah. Headteacher's Award for Art: Leah Turberville. Sir Peter Emery Cup for Science: Callum Henagulph. Basil Tompkins Senior English Prize: Mary Neesam. Mayoress's Award for History Projects: Rowena Trott. Axminster Power Tools Cup for Construction Projects: Callum Henagulph. Mayor's Cup for Technology: Jayme Barlow. Tony Vickery Cup for Progress: Ashley Kelleher. Bath Travel Trophy for Modern Languages: Holly Adeyemo. Peter Courtney Cup for Mathematics: Andrew Davis. Headteacher's Award for Geography: James Vaughan.

TAVCC Award for Achievement in ICT: Jack Weber. Betty Holmes Award for Achievement in a Spoken Language: Yasmine Willcox. Bryan Steane Award for Musical Performance: Andrew Davis. St Thomas Court Surgery Shield for the Most Improved Science Student: Owen Wilton. Rev. Swift Award for Service to the Community: Charlotte Jackson.

Beviss & Beckinsale Trophy for Achievement in the Arts (Drama): Holly Adeyemo. Operatic Society Shield for Music and Drama: Maria Layzell. Bryan Steane Award for Humanities (RE): Naomi Ford.

Chamber of Commerce Cup for Achievement in Business Studies: Adam Kana-ah. James Vickery Scroll for Achievement in PE: Alex Hunt. Inclusion Team Award: Freddy Pulman. Kevin Moran Cup for Contribution to Sports & PE: Adam Kana-ah.

POST 6 AWARDS:

Joy Hull Plate for Best Overall Achievement at Advanced Level: Annabelle Searle. Chairman's Cup for Merit: Kayleigh Kryulko. Joliff Cup for Mathematics: Annabelle Searle. Douglas Hull Cup for Most Improvement in a Vocational Course: Beth Stacey. Hugo Swire Cup for Most Significant Contribution to the College and Wider Community: Becky Butler. Archway Bookshop Award for Health and Social Care: Beth Stacey. Graham Godbeer Award for Business and Enterprise: Scott Love. Headteacher's Award for A Level English: Amie Pickett.

TAVCC Award for Excellence in ICT: Erich Busby. Axe Valley Community College Award for the Visual Arts: Annabelle Searle. Mayor's Cup for Social Sciences: Polly Budden. Alexander Paul Antiques Award for Technology: Bessie Collins.

Fred Wells Award for Humanities: Ryanne O'Shea-Smith. Graham Watts Award for Science: Dawn Coghlan. Senior Music Award: Sam Hunt. Axe Valley Community College Award for a Level History: Jake Burton. Axe Valley Community College Award for A Level Photography: Jodie Miller.

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Snow scenes

PHOTO BY JOHN CLOKE

OVERNIGHT snow caused chaos in east Devon on Monday morning.

Town centres were much quieter than usual, with some businesses closed as staff couldn't make it in.

A thick blanket of snow greeted those who ventured out on Monday morning.

The snow made driving hazardous in general, and impossible on the A30 from Honiton to Exeter — which was deemed "impassable" and closed down for a few hours.

Speaking on Monday morning, Chief Inspector Polly King, of Devon and Cornwall Police's Road Policing Unit, said: "We have well rehearsed plans for dealing with severe weather and officers are on the roads dealing with any problems that are reported to us. As well as motoring I would encourage people to think about their neighbours at this time and make sure elderly people are warm, have any medication they need and have enough to eat."

Pulman's View was among businesses operating with limited staff. Reporter Ben Middleton, who lives in Exeter, had to work from home and said: "Nobody is going anywhere."

PHOTO BY JOHN CLOKE

◆ THE Minster church in Axminster is a perfect snowy scene on Monday, top, and Simon Byworth clears the snow in the churchyard, left. Above, scenes at the George Inn, Chardstock. Top right, a bus problem at Tytherleigh Hill

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◆ FATHER Christmas himself pictured, left, with, from left, Charlie Simic, Georgia Clifford-Davies and Abigail Lane. Above, Santa in his sleigh. Below, Santa with his Honiton Round Table helpers

Santa is spotted

FATHER Christmas has been spotted on his annual sleigh ride around Honiton, ably assisted by the Round Table.

Every year the fundraisers tow Father Christmas and his sleigh around the streets of the town to raise money for local charities.

Councillors blast DCC over parking fee plans

COUNCILLORS in Honiton have blasted Devon County Council (DCC) proposals to install parking metres in the town.

As previously reported in *Pulman's View,* the county council is planning to introduce a system of free parking for the first 30 minutes and then a charge of 60p per hour on High Street.

The issue was discussed again during a Honiton Town Council meeting held on Monday, December 13th.

During the meeting councillors voiced their concerns to county council representatives Stuart Hughes and Lester Wilmington.

Peter Halse, town and district councillor for Honiton, said: "This is all about money and it does look like the county council is pulling a fast one. I thought the county council wanted to benefit the town and keep traffic moving. This proposal means that people who stop in the town will be disadvantaged."

Deputy mayor Vernon Whitlock said: "Our High Street fought back after Tesco arrived. What we are currently hearing from traders is that DCC is penalising the small businesses and supporting supermarkets."

Mr Wilmington responded by saying: "We know the quality of shops in Honiton will draw people in. The view is that in the short term this proposal will have a negative impact and a positive impact thereafter. In general, we have found that most towns don't find this to be a problem."

Former mayor Vivienne Ash said: "The High Street is the core of what this town is about. How as a town do we get a proper dialogue with the county council so that we can work in partnership so that the county council can do something to support towns like Honiton?"

Mr Hughes and Mr Wilmington confirmed that DCC would be happy to work with Honiton and have invited councillors to a meeting in the New Year.

Colin Wright, of Honiton and District Chamber of Commerce, said he was taking a petition to traders and residents in the town.

He said: "By the time our petition is finished on Christmas Eve we could have 3,000 signatures. We don't think there will be a large enough turn around of traffic and we are concerned about the environmental issues and pollution in town.

"We are all passionate about the town. We have a vibrant town and as a market town we don't have the luxury of people coming in in the summer period."

Councillor Whitlock added: "We cannot afford to see any drop in the town economy. Honiton High Street is different from other places in Devon."

Mr Wilmington added that he was unsure exactly how many machines would be installed in Honiton if the proposal went ahead.

He did confirm that each machine would cost in the region of £6,400 including £3,000 to install the machine, £400 per year for maintenance and £200 per year for servicing.

In the editor's shoes

Written by editorial manager KATE WILLIAMS

Important community service lost

WHAT is the world coming to? I'm shocked and saddened to hear that three of our local police stations are closing their doors to the public.

I understand why, of course, that it is not financially viable to keep the receptions open, but what a great shame and loss it will be to the community.

Times are tough, we are all aware, with major cuts taking place in more industries than not currently, but so much is being lost by doing so.

Don't get me wrong, I would rather the station receptions close than to lose officers through redundancies and needs must and all that — but it is the end of a great service. One unlikely to be regained in the future.

What will happen now if someone finds a wallet or driver's licence? You can't hand it in so, does one travel to the nearest station — probably Honiton for most? Or do you ring one of those secret non-emergency numbers (no one seems to know them and the constabulary, it has to be said, is not great at getting them out there)?

If you do, you're likely to be put through to Plymouth, and what will they tell you to do with it?

There are many things which will be lost through this community hub — despite many saying the local stations were hardly ever open anyway.

More and more regional newspapers are going the same way these days with publications being created remotely at a central hub sometimes hundreds of miles away from the areas covered, and without that local knowledge and direct access, details are lost or changed, mistakes happen and that service dies.

We have to embrace the future and the changes it brings but how do we fill the gaps which money-saving, cost-cutting exercises leave behind?

We'll be phoning Delhi before we know it to hand that wallet in.

■ ON to cheerier things. This, being your Christmas issue, is full of festive spirit including our famous *Little Angels* pictures which will be featured in the following few issues of the paper to ensure as many as possible get in print.

Our nativity spreads are very popular and, those of you whose little treasures are pictured, you are now able to purchase the photos online at www.axminster-today.co.uk.

Take a peek at the little boy dressed as Santa in the photo at the top left of this page. Charlie is the son of my sub-editor, Lucie, and as well as being pictured with Father Christmas he later went out delivering Christmas cards with his dad around the village in which they live — both in Santa outfits!

On that note, I shall bid you farewell for the festive break and wish all our readers a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.

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To contact the editor, write to: Pulman's View, South Street, Axminster, Devon EX13 5AD or email kate@tindlenews.co.uk

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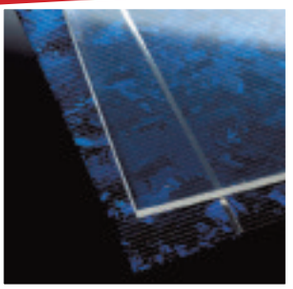

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The festive faces of children across Pulman's Country in their school nativity plays...

PULMAN'S LITTLE ANGELS

PHOTO BY COLIN BOWERMAN

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PHOTO BY LUCIE SIMIC

PHOTO BY COLIN BOWERMAN

◆ **CLOCKWISE from top left, pupils at St Mary's Primary School in Axminster staged a nativity play called Let Me Tell You a Story. Top right, the three kings from Puffins Pre-school in Beer. Right, pupils at Farway primary school. Left, Children from Scallywags Pre-school in Feniton performed a Christmas Carol Concert**

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The festive faces of children across Pulman's Country in their school nativity plays...

PULMAN'S LITTLE ANGELS

PHOTOS BY COLIN BOWERMAN

◆ ABOVE and top left, the children from Upottery Primary School rehearsing their nativity play in the village church. Far left, Littletown Primary School in Honiton performs its Christmas show Christmas with the Aliens. Pictured is the cast of the show. Left, children at Membury Primary School also put on a performance of the play Christmas with the Aliens in the village hall

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Pulman's View from the churches

With Nigel Speller

Linda Chester, Methodist minister writes: "What do you think is the greatest miracle?

"You may say technology, particularly with the tremendous advances in the past 10 years, or perhaps medical knowledge and surgical techniques. There is so much knowledge and expertise in our world today, each generation strives to move forward and achieve new heights.

"And what about our wonderful world? The awesome beauty of creation seen in a flaming sunset, a clear starlit night, the magnificent autumnal colours of this year, or the stunning beauty of the trees and landscape with the recent snap of very cold weather?

"And yet, for me, the miracle of life is in a class of its own. I always marvel at a new birth. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ in Bethlehem,I suggest this is the greatest miracle of all. Love is the greatest gift of all. Let us allow God to touch us again with his love this Christmas."

Topically we have word of a new seasonal website to help find the nearest carol, nativity or Christingle service — the Diocese of Exeter has produced this which is www.findacarol.com

Following on this innovation comes advice that the Church of England is issuing guidance on how church naves and aisles can be utilised for serving groceries and similar goods, thus offering help to local communities.

Closing words come from two Archbishops of Canterbury. Lord Carey criticises attempts to "airbrush" the Christian faith out of the picture at Christmas with 'Seasons Greetings' rather than 'Happy Christmas'; whereas if it were not a celebration about the birth of Jesus Christ it would not have lasted as the main festival of the year.

The current Archbishop Rowan Williams writes that the attempts to ban or discourage nativity plays or public carol singing out of supposed tender feeling for other religions fail to notice that most people of all religions and cultures love the story and respect the message. A happy Christmas to all our readers.

President reports a successful year

THE Axminster and District Horticultural Society held its annual meeting on November 19th.

The president welcomed members and thanked them for coming. She said the society had had a good year with outings and meetings. The show had been successful and she thanked the committee for all their hard work.

The chairman told members that this year it had been decided to have just three outings organised by Mrs Barnes. This has proved very successful with fully booked coaches, popular venues and all in perfect weather.

It had been a sad year with the death of the indoors meetings secretary Mrs J Purnell. She was a very enthusiastic member and will be missed. Dr Jim Prentice had retired from the position of members' secretary and will be replaced by Mr John Durrant.

She went on to thank Mr Ray Collard for all his hard work as treasurer and said he was the backbone of the society.

Mr Collard gave summary of the financial results for 2009-2010. The society had had a good year and achieved a profit this past financial year against a loss the previous one. The show entry fees had been up and expenses at the same level as last year. He thanked the Rotary Club and Axe Vale Festival for their support.

At the conclusion of the evening's business Mr Nick Ridgen gave a talk entitled Plant Hunters. Mr Ridgen orginally came from Kent but has lived in Somerset longer. He had been in horticultural education since 1969 as a practical instructor and lecturer and for the past 17 years.

He was head of horticulture, initially at Plumpton Agricultural College and latterly at Cannington College, Somerset.

Mr Ridgen gave a very informative talk and had brought with him several species of plants which had come from all over the world but ones that we now take for granted if not in our garden.

Plant hunting started with the French missionaries who were sent out all over the world. John Tradescant (1637) and his son were royal gardeners to Charles I.

The elder went to Russia, Morocco and Chile. The younger to Virginia and is credited with the Tulip Tree amongst other plants.

The plant hunters went abroad to countries that they knew nothing about and many did not return. Disease, hardship and natives played a part in their journeys.

Mr Ridgen read excerpts from diaries written by the men of the hardships they had to face. Many would be gone for several years, sending back specimens that often died on the journey home and seens that were often eaten by vermin on the ships. It was several years later that a Wardian case invented by a Dr Ward allowed plants to travel back unscathed.

The top of the case was glass and the plants would have their roots in soil. Condensation would gather in the case and water the plants during the long journey home.

We heard about Joseph Banks, a young Scotsman called David Douglas, Ernest Henry Wilson known as Chinese Wilson who introduced 2,000 species of plants, Robert Fortune and William Lobb.

Some of the plants that arrived back on the shores of Great Britain were: formiums; bottle brush; Douglas fir; monkey puzzle, monteray, pine, crytermeria Japonica, kiwi fruit, handkerchief tree, paper-bark maple, viburnum, acers, magnolias and rhododendrons.

The liost goes ever onwards and we owe it to these brave men for some of the beautiful flowers and trees that we have the pleasure of seeing throughout our spring, summer and autumn and often into winter.

The members found the talk extremely interesting and the chairman thanked Mr Ridgen before closing the meeting.

Send your club reports and news to: Pulman's View, Tindle House, South Street, Axminster, Devon EX13 5AD or email to: pulmans@tindlenews.co.uk

WI women keep busy

FOLLOWING the Beer Women's Institute's (WI) annual meeting it has been a busy month for members.

The group held its monthly lunch meeting at the Anchor Inn where they enjoyed the £5 Winter Warmers.

Later that day the ladies moved on to The Dolphin Inn for the group WI quiz which included entries from Seaton and Beer made up two teams.

The December meeting was well attended including five guests.

Christine Badger demonstrated Christmas decorations using flowers and holly. She completed five which were raffled at the end of the evening.

Four members attended the carol concert at Exeter Cathedral. They were among 100 WI choir members who sang to a full audience.

The Senior Citizens' party on December 9th was a great success. About 80 people came and enjoyed a lovely meal prepared by WI members.

Several Mums from the school came along and helped with the serving and washing up. Our thanks go to them for their invaluable help.

Alan Bricknell provided roses for all the tables and the oldest lady on each table was given the rose to take home with her.

The children from the primary school gave a wonderful interpretation of the nativity as seen through the eyes of a cat.

Members are in to the third round of the Devon area skittles competition, having beaten Branscombe and Uffculme.

The January meeting will be held on January 5th in the Mariners Hall. It will be a new year party with entertainment by Ned and the Turmitt. Please bring a plate of food.

Wainhomes would like to wish all our customers past, present and future a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

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RICS ARLA

◆ SIBLINGS, from left, Emily, Charlie and Phoebe Dare, of Kilmington, hold their Christingle candles, left. Below, Ebony Melarkey-Williams, also of Kilmington, is pictured at the service. Bottom, the children gather with their candles to sing some festive favourites

Children light the way

THE Christingle Service in St Giles's Church, Kilmington, on Sunday, December 12th brought many families together.

Lots of children eagerly anticipated the moment when they were to receive their candlelit Christingles.

Rev Kate Woolven gave them all a warm welcome and explained the significance of the orange, the ribbon, the candle and the sweets.

There were some well known songs and hymns, a few of which were led by Margaret Hurford and the music group.

Rev Woolven, assisted by churchwardens Ann Marsh and Bill Kerslake, then lit the candles which the children carried to the altar steps where the choir sang the Christingle song, It's Rounded Like an Orange. The collection was donated to the Children's Society.

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Dr Clare is set for change of direction

A HONITON doctor will be "changing direction" in the new year after nearly 25 years at Honiton Surgery.

Dr Clare Seamark will be leaving the surgery in January to develop her interests in women's health and teaching.

A spokesman for the surgery said: "In January Clare will be leaving her partnership in order to spend more time developing her interests in women's health, teaching and research.

"Clare has expertise in family planning and reproductive health care and during her time in the practice has undertaken a masters degree and an MD.

"She will continue to run a women's health service half a day a week at the Honiton Surgery and will be training new GPs in family planning procedures.

"Clare will also continue her research and teaching interests both in the practice and with the Peninsula Medical School.

"She has greatly enjoyed her time as a partner at Honiton and will miss the pleasure of caring for whole families and seeing future generations grow up.

"Arrangements are being made for Clare's patients to be seen by Dr Ingram, Button or Waterfall."

The surgery will be closed on Christmas Day and will open again on Wednesday, December 29th. It will then close again on New Year's Day and will open again on Tuesday, January 4th.

The spokesman added: "When we are closed, if you need an emergency doctor call 0845 6710 270 to access Devon Doctors on Call. If you have had an accident please go to the Minor Injuries Unit at Honiton Hospital.

"To order your prescription - please post your prescription request through our letterbox.

"Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this may cause."

country scene

Written by countryside correspondent TONY JACKSON

Poised for the Arctic weather

BY the time you read this column we may well be suffering from Arctic conditions, that is if the forecasters have for once got it right.

Ever eager to produce headline quotes, the weather sooths have just predicted that we are about to experience the worst winter storms in a century, lasting well into the new year. Well, maybe. As I write it is relatively mild, but I am poised for the blizzards which are apparently about to strike. Long johns have been broken out, extra haylage bought in for the hunter and sufficient whisky acquired to last over the holiday. We are, it seems, going to have a white Christmas and if it does materialise it will be the first I can ever recall!

I very much hope that the forecasters have got it wrong, for prolonged icy, snow-bound conditions are only calculated to cause extreme hardship, not only to humans but also to all forms of wildlife, desperate for food and shelter. This form of extreme weather inevitably causes unusual movements of bird life, as the recent cold spell confirmed.

There was a massive movement of birds when the snow started to fall on December 2nd, including large flocks of lapwings and over 2,000 skylarks all seen flying west over Seaton in search, presumably, of milder conditions.

One very unusual visitor was a yellow wagtail, a summer migrant which normally departs from these shores by mid-September. However, this bird was trapped and ringed during a routine operation and closer inspection suggested that it might be an Eastern yellow wagtail. If so this would be the first confirmed record for the UK.

In addition, large numbers of wildfowl, including huge flocks of wigeon and teal, pochard, gadwall, three eiders and two goldeneye have been recorded on the Axe estuary and a single velvet scoter was also spotted out at sea. For my modest part, the windfall apples, or what's left of them, are still drawing in a few blackbirds, while several mistle-thrushes have been taking advantage of the mistletoe growing on the ancient apple tree. Sadly, I have yet to see a single song thrush, a bird which seems to have declined to the point of extreme rarity. There have also been several large flocks of starlings taking advantage of the frost-free meadows while numerous packs of "small brown jobs" have passed to and fro, but unidentifiable.

Meanwhile, can I plead for readers to make every effort to provide food and water for garden birds, especially if the promised bitter weather does materialise. If the ground is frozen, the hedgerows now denuded of berries and insect life non-existent, a wide range of birds will be almost entirely dependent on our generosity. Clean water is also essential when the countryside is locked into an icy iron grip.

From land to the sea. Apparently one of Dorset's most endangered creatures has been discovered in Swanage and Studland bays. A survey this year revealed that these areas are the nursery ground for undulate rays, one of the smallest and most attractive of British skates and rays. The fish displays a pattern of delicate wavy lines surrounded by pale dots, and is now protected and listed as endangered. Hopefully, these two bays will be listed as marine reserves under the Marine and Coastal Act 2009, providing protection for these rare creatures.

How were these fish identified in these bays? Well, the volunteer-led survey involved collecting mermaids' purses, the empty egg cases of skates and rays from the beaches, and also sightings by divers of juvenile undulate rays. Sufficient evidence has now been gathered to put forward a strong case to protect these nursery areas at Studland and Swanage.

Meanwhile, may I wish all readers a very fruitful and happy Christmas, with ample good cheer and, let's hope, no snow!

To contact Tony Jackson, write to: Pulman's View from, South Street, Axminster, Devon EX13 5AD or email wardjackson@tiscali.co.uk

The views expressed are those of the columnist and not necessarily of the newspaper.

Everything for the weekend

The Wheelwright
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Wishing you all a fantastic Christmas

Everything for the weekend

OUT & ABOUT

● HONITON Library will be holding a series of festive events over the Christmas season.

In conjunction with Devon County Council (DCC) Library Service, Honiton Library will offer festive storytime, a quiz and a name the dog competition.

Festive storytime will take place on Wednesday, December 22nd, between 10.30am and 11am.

Children under six, along with their parents and carers are invited to attend.

The library will be running a quiz called Sons no Daughters and the closing date for entries is Saturday, January 22nd.

All the answers to the quiz end in 'son'. Prizes include a family ticket for West Somerset Railway and a family ticket for Escot Park.

Entry forms are available in the library.

The name the dog competition will run until Monday, December 20th.

Anyone entering the competition has to guess the name of the soft toy puppy to be in with a chance of winning him.

The winner will be announced on Tuesday, December 21st.

A spokesman for the county council library service said: "Christmas is coming and to help get in the mood DCC Libraries have lined up an exciting programme of events for everyone to enjoy over the festive period.

"The series of fun activities aims to entertain residents, both young and old, during the Christmas holidays, and includes everything from arts and craft workshops to storytelling and festive competitions.

"Most of them are offered free of charge."

● Seaton Methodist Church, Scalwell Lane, will be hosting a children's nativity and carol service on Christmas Eve at 4pm.

CALL THE SALES TEAM ON 01297 32601

SEATON CHRISTMAS EVE CAROLS

FOR the fifth year Seaton Baptist Church will hold a Christmas Eve carol singing time at the town square, Seaton, by the tree, at 4pm.

● *IN the bleak mid-winter frosty wind made moan.*
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone.
Snow had fallen snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak mid winter long ago
Our God heaven cannot hold him nor earth sustain
Heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.

● *In the bleak mid-winter a stable place sufficed,*
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.
Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air. But his mother only in her maiden bliss. Worshipped the beloved with a kiss. What can I give him poor as I am,
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wise man I would do my part
Yet what can I give him – give my heart.

IT came upon a midnight clear that glorious song of old. From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold. 'Peace on the earth good will to men from Heaven's all gracious King'. The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing. Still through the clover skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled. And still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world.. Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing. And ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing. And ye beneath life's crushing load whose forms are bending low. Who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow. Look now for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing.
O rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing. For lo the days are hastening on by prophet seen of old. When with the ever circling years shall come the time foretold. When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendours fling. And the whole earth send back the song which now the angels sing.

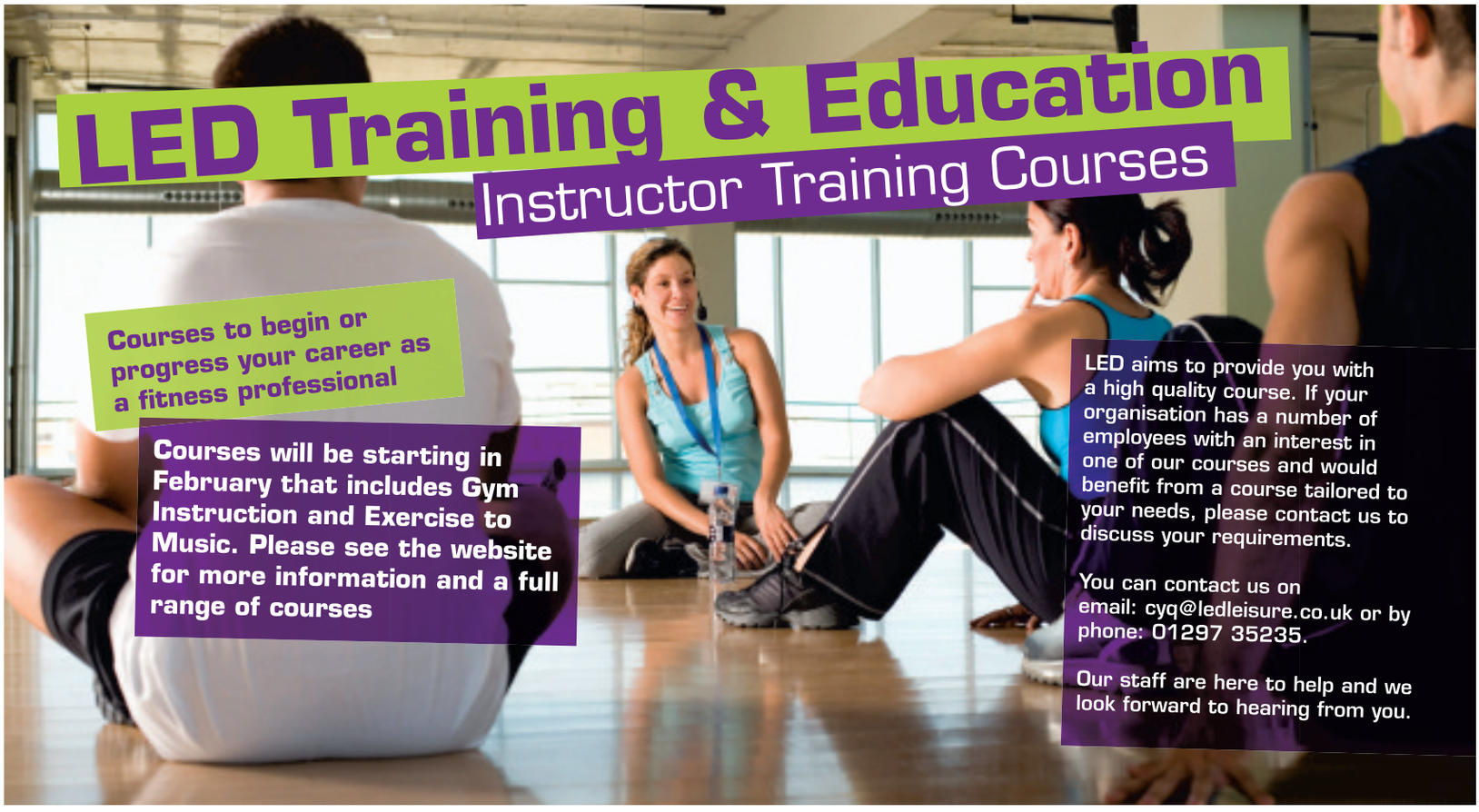
● *THE first Noel the angel did say*
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep on a cold winter's night that was so deep
Noel Noel Noel Noel Born is the King of Israel
They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far. And to the earth it gave great light and so it continued both day and night - Noel…….
And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far to seek for a King was their intent and to follow the start wherever it went - Noel….
This star drew nigh to the north west o'er Bethlehem it took its rest. And there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay - Noel…….
Then entered in those wise men three fell reverently upon the knee. And offered there in His presence
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense - Noel……

● *ONCE in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed. Mary was that mother mild – Jesus Christ her little child. He came down to earth from heaven – who is God and Lord of all. And his shelter was a stable and his cradle was a stall . With the poor and mean and lowly lived on earth our Saviour Holy and through all his wondrous childhood he would honour and obey Love and watch the lowly maiden in whose gentle arms he lay.*
Christian children all must be mild obedient good as he for he is our childhood's pattern – day by day like us he grew he was little weak and helpless – tears and smiles like us he knew. And he feeleth for our sadness and he shareth in our gladness. And our eyes at last shall see him through his own redeeming love. For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in Heaven above And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone. Not in that poor lowly stable with the oxen standing by – we shall see him. But in heaven sat at God's right hand on high.
When like stars his children crowned all in white shall wait around.

● *O LITTLE town of Bethlehem how still we see thee lie. Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light. The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*
O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth And praises sing to God the King and peace to men on earth. For Christ is born of Mary and gathered all above.
While mortals sleep the angels keep their watch of wondering love. How silently how silently the wondrous gift is given.
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven. No ear may hear his coming but in this world of sin Where meek souls will receive his still the dear Christ enters in. O Holy Child of Bethlehem descend on us we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell. O come to us abide with us our Lord Emmanuel

● *HARK the herald angels sing glory to the new born King! Peace on earth and mercy mild – God and sinners reconciled.*
Joyful all ye nations rise join the triumph of the skies With the angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem. Hark the herald angels sing glory to the new born King. Christ by highest heaven adored Christ the everlasting Lord.
Late in time behold Him come offspring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see – Hail the incarnate Deity. Pleased as man with man to dwell Jesus our Emmanuel.
Hark the herald angels sing glory to the new born King. Hail the Heaven born Prince of Peace – Hail the Son of righteousness. Light and life to all He brings – risen with healing in his wings. Mild He lays his glory by born that man no more may die. Born to raise the sons of earth born to give them second birth
Hark the herald angels sing glory to the new born King.

● *O COME all ye faithful – joyful and triumphant*
O come ye O come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold him born the King of angels
O come let us adore him O come let us adore him
O come let us adore him Christ the Lord
God of God light of light. Lo He abhors not the virgins womb. Very God begotten not created
O come let us adore him O come let us adore him
O come let us adore him Christ the Lord
Sing choirs of angels – sing in exultation
Sing all ye citizens of Heaven above. Glory to God in the highest. O come let us adore him O come let us adore him. O come let us adore him Christ the Lord



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Central ymca Qualifications

OUT & ABOUT

● OTTERY St Mary youngsters are being encouraged to take part in a spot the Santa competition.

The competition has been organised by Ottery Tourist Information Centre (TIC) and a prize of a Selection Box has been donated by Pearson's newsagents.

Children taking part will have to try and find as many little wooden Santas, that have been placed at various shops in the town, as possible.

The winner will be the person who finds the most Santas. Participants must make a list of the Santas they spot and hand this into the TIC.

The competition is open to children aged up to 12 years.

The closing date is Friday, January 7th.

● REHEARSALS are in full swing for Colyton Theatre Group's pantomime, Sinbadaladdin.

Performances will take place in Colyton Town Hall at 7.30 pm from Wednesday, January 26th to Saturday, January 29th, plus a matinee performance at 2.30 pm on the Saturday.

Group member Cathy Ilsle said: "Not one but two principal boys - and not one but two genies - plus a large cast of mainly Oriental persons will contribute to the usual mayhem."

Tickets are priced at £6 for adults and £3 for children - and will go on sale in early January at Colyton Pharmacy, Steve's Print in Seaton and Archway Bookshop in Axminster.

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● WE have two signed calendars to give away thanks to local Lyme Regis-based phtographer Richard Austin. We have one Animal Buddies 2011 calendar and one Lyme Regis 2011 calendar. To be in with a chance of winning one, answer the following question: *Where is Richard based?* Send your full name, address and contact number to: Calendar Competition, Pulman's View, South Street, Axminster, Devon EX13 5AD to reach us no later than 9am on Tuesday, January 4th 2011. Please specify which calendar is preferred although choice is not guaranteed.

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Third time lucky

FILM

DIRECTED by Paul Weitz (About a Boy), the third film in the series of blockbuster comedies once again centres on hapless male nurse Gaylord 'Greg' Focker (Ben Stiller), who is blissfully in love with his wife Pam (Teri Polo) and his twins.

However, Pam's father — retired CIA operative Jack Byrnes (Robert De Niro) — continues to view Greg with suspicion and isn't sure that his son-in-law is made of the right material to become the next patriarch of the Byrne clan.

Matters come to a head at a birthday party for the twins where Pam's old flame Kevin (Owen Wilson) once again puts Greg in the shade and has Jack eating out of the palm of his hand.

Meanwhile, Jack's wife Dina (Blythe Danner) despairs at his actions and attempts to keep the peace with Greg's lawyer father Bernie (Dustin Hoffman) and doctor mother Roz (Barbra Streisand).

DIARY DATES

Friday, December 31st
CREWKERNE: Abba Tribute at Crewkerne Sports Club. Starts at 8pm. Tickets obtainable from James Hardware 01460 73133.

Monday, January 10th
AXMINSTER: Axminster and District Seniors Forum at 2pm in the Senior Citizens Centre, Church Street.

Tuesday, January 11th
AXMINSTER: Memory Cafe 2pm to 4pm at the Senior Citizens' Centre in Church Street.

Saturday, January 15th
WELLINGTON: Mid-Winter Walk with Blackdown Hills Walking Group. Meet at Wellington Monument car park. Walk begins at 10.30am and will be about eight miles. Bring a picnic. Walk organised by Allen Holway 01823 681522

Wednesday, January 19th
UFFCULME: Winter Quiz organised by friends of Coldharbour Mill top be held in Uffculme Village Hall starting at 7.30pm. Admission £6
AXMINSTER: Axminster and District Horticultural Society meeting at 7.30pm in the United Reformed Church Hall, Chard Street. The talk by Anne Mosscrop is entitled Wall of China.

Spring line-up

EXETER Northcott is committed to showcasing new work and is delighted to be welcoming Cornish company Cube Essential Theatre with its spellbinding production of Geppetto in February next year.

The heart-rending but often hilarious contemporary take on the Pinocchio story boasts electric dialogue and enchanting puppetry. The drama continues with Icarus Theatre Collective's production of Shakespeare's Hamlet: Prince of Denmark in March.

Meanwhile, Lilies on the Land — also in March — is a sparkling West End hit, based on hundreds of letters from and interviews with real Land Girls, along with songs from the period.

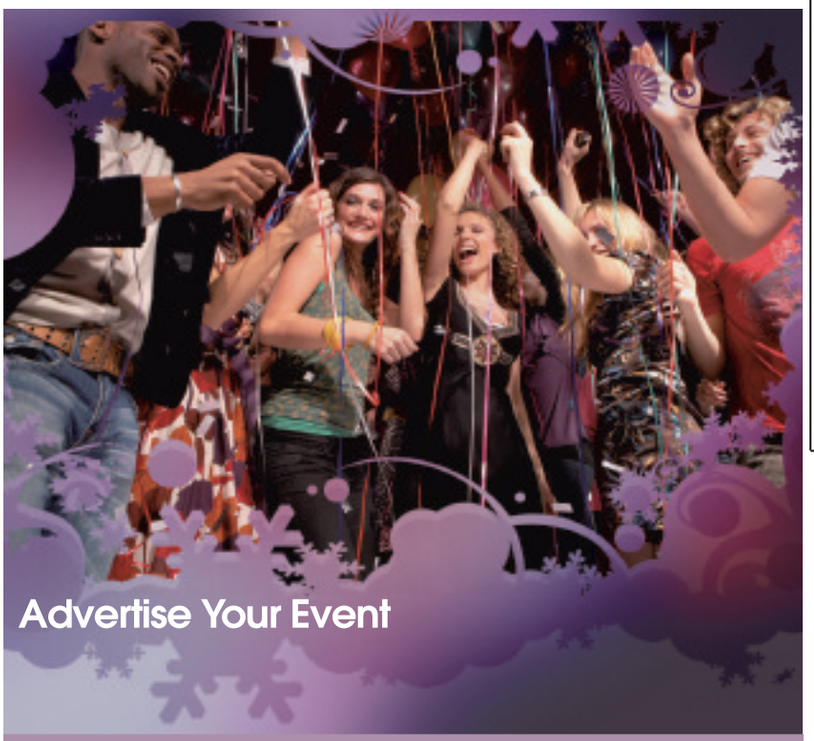
Families with younger children won't want to miss contemporary classics including Charlie and Lola's Best Bestest Play (February), Lost and Found (March) and The Little Red Hen (May).

Meanwhile, for children aged eight and above, Private Peaceful (April) tells the touching story of a young First World War soldier's final day, based on the award-winning book by third Children's Laureate, Michael Morpurgo.

For his eagerly-awaited return to Exeter, the Richard Alston Dance Company (February) presents a mixed programme of work performed to a thrilling collection of composers. Ballet Black (April), an award-winning company of black and Asian ballet dancers will also be making their debut at the theatre.

Tickets for the Spring 2010 Season are now on sale and are available by calling the Exeter Northcott Theatre Box Office on 01392 493493 or online at www.exeternorthcott.co.uk.

SALES TEAM
01297 32601



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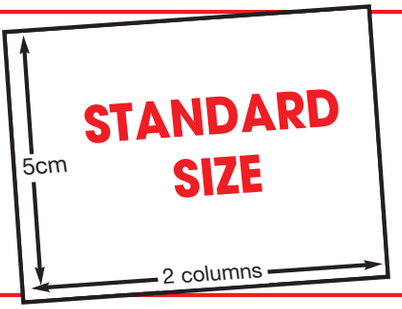

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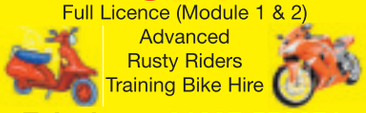

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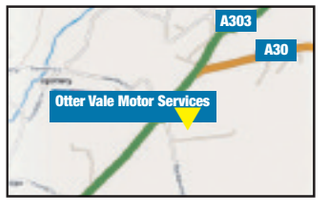

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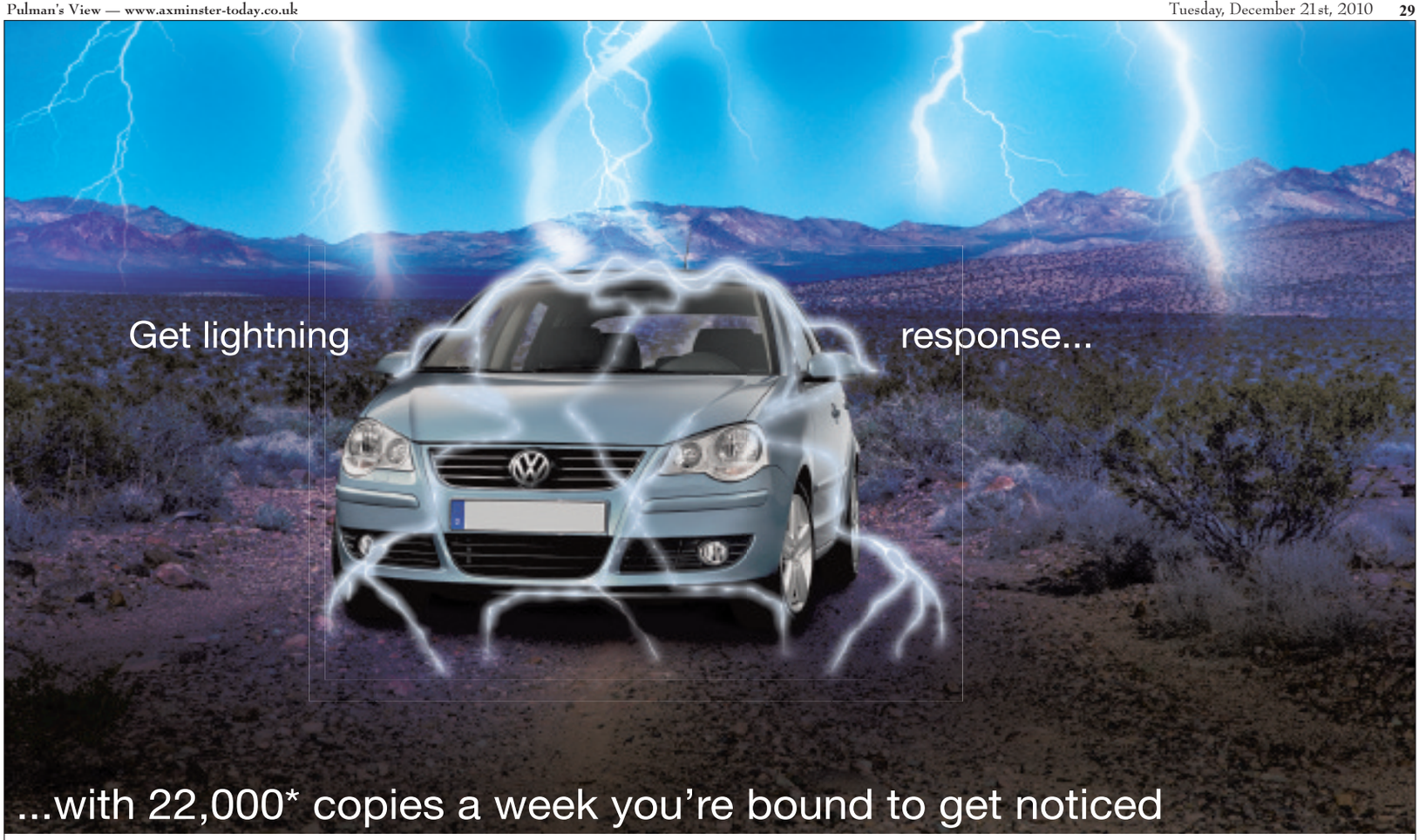

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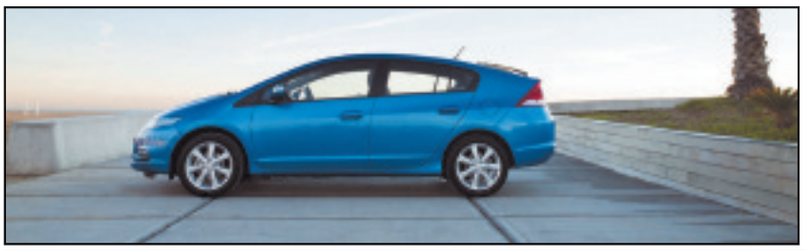

New hybrid takes over British roads

AN improved Honda Insight hybrid, featuring adjusted suspension to improve ride comfort and NVH levels and enhanced trim levels is now on British roads.

With with prices starting at £16,325 for the SE model, but with Honda's current Affordable Driving consumer offer, the hybrid is available at £14,995 on the road until the end of December, making it the least expensive hybrid on the market.

A new, top-of-the-range, EX model, featuring black leather upholstery and DVD Sat Nav and hands-free telephone, is another addition to the line-up.

As well as changes to the car's suspension, Honda has added rear parking sensors to ES model Insights and above, and updated the trim to improve cabin quality. Dashboard and seat colours have been changed, chrome rings now surround air vents and the doors have been given a silver trim feature.

The changes made to the Insight were in direct response to the comments received from early customers and the media. The initial focus was on suspension, to which improvements have been made to address negative feedback on ride and comfort levels.

Prices start at £16,325 for the SE model, but with Honda's current Affordable Driving consumer offer, the hybrid is available at £14,995 until the end of December. The flagship EX model with leather upholstery starts at £20,215 on the road.

● Japanese car maker Nissan has released new pricing details for its all-electric Leaf and is challenging drivers unsure if they can afford to take the electric vehicle plunge to think again.

With news that independent experts CAP have predicted the Leaf will retain 47 per cent of its on the road price (after the £5,000 government incentive) after three years and 30,000 miles , that puts the all-electric car ahead of hybrid and diesel engined rivals.

This has resulted in the cost of ownership falling even further, with low depreciation adding to the savings made from using cheaper, cleaner electricity as a fuel. Charging the Leaf's batteries is calculated to cost around £2 and the car has a range of more than 100 miles according to official figures.

In addition, electric vehicle drivers do not have to pay for a tax disc, are exempt from the London congestion charge and can park for free in some cities. Company car drivers can save even more, as the Leaf does not attract any Benefit-In-Kind liability, potentially saving thousands every year in tax.

To make electric motoring affordable for private buyers the Leaf is now available on a Personal Contract Purchase (PCP) scheme, with the residual value being underwritten by Nissan.

It means buyers can pay the same in monthly finance as a conventional hybrid or diesel car — but still make those savings on running costs.

With a deposit of £3,850 for example, the Leaf can be had for £397.17 per month. After three years the car can be handed back, refinanced or the customer can buy another Nissan.

Commenting on the car, Paul Willcox, managing director of Nissan Motor GB said: "Buyers can be confident that the Leaf will not lose value any faster than a conventional rival, thanks to the verdict of independent industry experts.

"Nissan is happy to show its confidence too and underwrite the future value using a PCP scheme. This will help drivers get behind the wheel of the new European Car of the Year 2011."

● Audi has released the first details of its all-new A6 saloon. Expected in the UK in the spring, the German car maker has put considerable emphasis on reducing the car's weight, fuel consumption and emissions.

With trick composite aluminium and steel being used for the car's construction, Audi claims this A6 weighs around 15 percent less than an all-steel equivalent. As an indirect result, a 2.0-litre TDI diesel variant promises a fleet-friendly 129g/km CO2 and 57mpg-plus economy.

At launch there will be one petrol and four diesel engines, teamed with manual, multitronic or S tronic transmissions. Quattro permanent all-wheel drive will also be available. Order books open in January, with prices starting from £30,145.

Styled to compliment the recently launched A8 upper class saloon, Audi's new A6 offers a similar cabin ambience and look as its flagship limousine.

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Pulman's View
Sport
FIRST WITH THE LOCAL SPORT — EVERY WEEK

'Pedallers' dress it up for festive celebration

◆ IN festive spirit, Axe Valley Pedallers enjoy a local ride in fancy dress

SEATON-BASED cycling club Axe Valley Pedallers had a brilliant turnout for its Christmas dinner and awards ceremony.

After gathering in fancy dress near Seaton Tramway, the cyclists made their way the short distance to Fisherman's Gap in Seaton to pose for a photograph on the roundabout that the club decorated with colourfully painted bikes.

It was then along the seafront with bells ringing back along Harbour Road and then up the cycle path towards Colyford.

The riders certainly put a smile on the faces of many a passerby, as walkers stopped to watch, snowmen, elves, cowboys and astronauts to name a few of the many varied characters in the procession.

After an excellent dinner at The White Hart and a speech by Alistair Cope, chairman of the club, it was time to hand out the 2010 awards, which went as follows:

The Epic award was presented to Alistair Cope for his 64 day, 6600 kilometre ride of the UK coastline this summer on The Great Tour.

The Most Improved Cyclist award, went to Robert Sanders, who over the years has gone from struggling up short hills on his first ride, to now tackling 50 to 60 mile rides with ease.

The Mechanical Breakdown award went to Ben Dowell for breaking a number of bits on a number of bikes.

The Champagne Moment award went to Sebastian Cope for cycling all the way up a steep off-road hill without stopping or falling off. Sebastian also picked up the new Hovis award, which will have a new qualifying criteria set each year.

The fancy dress completion was won by Gary Anning and Elaine Clinch. It has been an exceptional year for the club which continues to grow at a rapid pace. Alistair Cope said in his speech: "We are growing as a club because we welcome cyclists of all abilities, even if you don't fancy cycling on club night, just come along for a chat."

The club extends a welcome to everyone who rides or who wants to ride a bike. More details can be found at www.axevalleypedallers.org.uk.

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MIXED SPORT

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AXMINSTER WINTER DARTS LEAGUE

Singles:
Axe Inn 2, Pirates 2;
Baby sheep 3, Vault B 1;
Con Flyers 2, Red Bulls 2;
Vault A 4, Red Lion A 0.

Team:
Axe Inn 5, Pirates 1;
Baby Sheep 4, Vault B 2;
Con Flyers 5, Red Bulls 1;
Vault A 6, Red Lion A 0

Singles

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lamb A	10	9	1	0	35	5	35
Baby Sheep	11	5	4	2	27	17	27
Axe Inn	11	5	3	3	25	19	25
Vault B	11	6	3	2	25	19	25
Vault A	10	4	3	3	24	16	24
Con Flyers	11	3	5	3	23	21	23
Red Lion A	11	2	4	5	18	26	18
Red Necks	8	2	2	4	10	22	10
Pirates	9	0	3	6	9	27	9
Red Bulls	10	0	2	8	8	32	8

Team

Lamb A	10	10	0	0	52	8	20
Baby Sheep	11	7	1	3	44	22	15
Con Flyers	11	6	3	2	41	25	15
Axe Inn	11	6	2	3	42	24	14
Vault A	11	6	2	3	41	25	14
Vault B	11	5	2	4	33	33	12
Red Lion A	11	2	4	5	26	40	8
Red Bulls	11	1	1	9	12	54	3
Red Necks	8	1	1	6	11	37	3
Pirates	9	0	0	9	10	44	0

FIRST WITH ALL THE LOCAL SPORT NEWS AND RESULTS

HONITON GOLF CLUB

Golf played on the temporary greens for club

LAST week the club played another round of the Sun Am Winter League on temporary greens again.

John Marchant and Andy Wagner couldn't believe their luck as they capitalised with a succession of pure flukes. In the clubhouse it was the same story with other defeats.

So, all to play for with three league rounds remaining and postponements very much on the cards.

Mixed Section

The annual Bring and Win Greensome Stableford competition attracted over 30 players last Tuesday.

Due to the weather conditions it was played over 14 holes and with the heavy frosts temporary greens were again in play making for some very interesting putting.

The winning pair, with 31 points, were Linda Northover and Mike Watts who were able to select their prize from the prize table first.

Second place was Jean Putt and Bill Eaton also on 31 points.

Third place was Rosemary Whiteley and John Dickinson with 29 points.

AXE CLIFF GOLF CLUB

Calm before the league storm

ON Sunday Axe Cliff Golf Club competed for round four of the Winter League in warm, calm conditions.

The seemingly unbeatable team of Cyril and Andrew Heller won for the third time in a row with 45 points.

Richard Gibbons and Steve Anning were second with 44 points and a better back nine than third placed Mat Yates and Shane Brown, also with 44 points.

On Monday the ladies and the seniors got together for the annual Frosty Frolic consisting of a 13-hole greensome followed by an entertaining pantomime and carols.

The winners were Janet Dack and Iain Bain, second Mary Gipps and Rob Grove and in third place Brian Wilkes and Barbara Cummings.

On Wednesday, in glorious sunshine, the Ladies played the Christmas Stableford followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

The winner was Mary Gipps, second place went to Hazel Williamson and in third place Pauline Willis.

Seniors' Section

Fortunately the thaw came early enough for the fifth round of the Seniors' Winter League to go ahead on Friday. This was reflected in the scores with three teams. Out in front were Brian Wilkes (12)/ Morrison Brown (25) ; second place went to Chris Joweett (16)/ Alan Vincent (21) with Chris Walker (13)/ Tony Horton (25) having to settle for third place. There were two twos from Brian Wilkes and Sid Pember.

HONITON CRIB LEAGUE

Results:
Awliscombe Inn 3 Winslade Club 5, Blacksmiths Arms 3 Three Tuns 5, Feniton Soc B 3, New Fountain 5, Kings Arms 1 Thirsty Farmer 7, Vine Inn B 3, Workingmens B 5, Workingsman A 7 Feniton Soc A 1, Vine Inn A bye.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Winslade Clb	14	8	4	2	67	45	28
New Fount	14	7	4	3	61	51	25
Three Tuns	14	7	3	4	61	51	24
Thirsty Far	13	6	3	4	59	45	21
Vine Inn A	13	5	5	3	55	49	20
Black Arms	14	6	1	7	56	56	19
Vine Inn B	12	6	1	5	52	44	19
Work'man B	13	5	3	5	53	51	18
Fen Soc B	13	4	4	5	50	54	16
Work'men A	14	3	6	5	54	58	15
Fen Soc A	14	4	3	7	49	63	15
Kings Arms	13	4	3	6	42	62	15
Awlisc'be I	13	1	2	10	37	67	5

Captains Cup

	P	W	L	Pts
Lorraine White	14	9	5	9
Terresa Baldwin	14	8	6	8
Dave Joslin	13	7	6	7
Grant Hayson	13	7	6	7
Jean Garside	13	7	6	7
Julie Davies	13	7	6	7
Amelia Bath	14	7	7	7
Lionel Hawkins	14	7	7	7
Rita Freemantle	14	7	7	7
Steve Pettitt	14	7	7	7
Arthur Iball	13	6	7	6
Audrey Hawkins	13	5	8	5
Hedley Hawkins	12	3	9	3

Dave Joslin 1 Terresa Baldwin 0, Grant Hayson 1 Arthur Iball 0, Hedley Hawkins 0 Julie Davies 1, Lorraine White 1 Amelia Bath 0, Steve Pettitt 0 Rita Freemantle 1, Audrey Hawkins bye.

Fixtures:
Thursday, January 6th
Feniton Soc A v Awliscombe Inn, New Fountain v Vine Inn B, Thirsty Farmer v Feniton Soc B, Three Tuns v Kings Arms, Vine Inn A v Wortkingmens A, Winslade Club v Blacksmith Arms, Workingmens B bye.

HONITON SKITTLES LEAGUE

Division One

Red Cow 342, Scruffs 338; Beasty Boys 392, Three Tuns B 389; Feniton Force 392, Vine B 364; Smidgers 340, Offwell 316; Three Tuns A 373, Raiders 363.

Division Two
Hillbillies 373, Coasters 339; Nog Inn 399, Cricketers 392; Tuckers B 325, Misfits 329; Legion V 387, Monks 353; Con A 367, Tuckers A 332.

Division Three

PWP 321, Awliscombe 313; Angels 291, Allsorts 282; Ups and Downs 343, Legion Blue 280; Bluebelles 302, Highfield 300; Wild Things 344, Bluebirds 336; Shells Belles 331, Volly Vixens 332

Division One

	P	Pts
Red Cow	11	16
Three Tuns B	11	16
Beasty Boys	11	15
Feniton Force	11	15
Vine B	11	13
WMCA	10	10
Scruffs	11	10
Three Tuns A	11	10
Offwell	11	8
Raiders	11	8
Volunteer	11	8
Blacksmiths	10	6
Smidgers	11	5

Division Two

Blackboro	11	20
Hillbillies	11	16
Nog Inn	11	16
Con A	11	14
Vine A	11	12
Coasters	11	10
Cricketers	11	10
Tuckers A	11	8
Tuckers B	11	8
Legion V	11	8
Misfits	11	8
Monks	11	4
Star A	11	4

Division Three

Woodpeckers	11	18
Shelles Belles	11	16
Wild Things	11	16
Angels	11	14
PWP	11	14
Ups and Downs	11	14
Volly Vixens	11	12
Bluebelles	11	10
Highfield	11	10
Allsorts	11	8
Awliscombe	11	6
Bluebirds	11	5
Legion Blue	11	4

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SEATON CRIB LEAGUE

THE semi-finals of the Stan Berry cup were played on Tuesday, December 14th.

Results:
The Golden H'd 17, Kingf'er 10; Eyre Court 18, Kings Arms 9;

The final will take place between The Golden Hind and Eyre Court on Tuesday, December 21st at Eyre Court.

The next league games will be held on January 11th when the Kings arms will play PJ's, Golden Hind will play Royal Clarence and Vaults bar will play Eyre Court.

COLYTON DARTS LEAGUE

Singles:
Dolphin A 3, Beer Club 3; Club A 5, Club B 1; Harbour 3, Dolphin B 3; Colyton 3, Golden Hind 3.

1001:
Dolphin A 5, Beer Club 0; Club A 5, Club B 0; Harbour 2, Dolphin B 3; Colyton 4, Golden Hind 1.

Singles

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Club A	10	10	0	0	49	11	49
Dolph B	10	6	3	1	38	22	38
Vault A	9	4	3	2	29	25	29
Gold Hi A	9	3	3	3	28	23	28
Kings Ar	9	2	3	4	26	28	26
K'fisher A	8	2	5	1	24	24	24
Dolphin A	8	3	2	3	21	27	21
Colyton	8	0	5	3	21	27	21
Beer CbA	9	0	4	5	20	34	20
Harbour	9	0	4	5	17	37	17
Club B	5	-	1	4	9	21	9

1001

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Club A	10	8	2	37	13	37
Vault A	8	4	4	19	21	19
Kings Ar	9	4	5	23	22	23
K'fisher A	8	5	3	20	20	20
Harbour	9	1	8	11	34	11
Gold HiA	9	3	6	16	29	16
Club B	5	2	3	9	16	9
Dolph B	10	8	2	32	18	32
Dolph A	8	4	4	24	16	24
Colyton	8	5	3	24	16	24
Beer CbA	9	3	6	16	29	16

AXMINSTER SKITTLES LEAGUE - MEN

Division One

Thorncombe B 353 (P Saunders 65) v Old Inn Kilm A 372 (A Cross 75),
Lamb A 342 (D Weston 62) v Ax Inn Jokers 359 (L Ellis 65),
Kings Arms Stk A 354 (J Durrant 65) v Axe Vale A 361 (A Ostler 68),
BeeGees 353 (T Wellman 63) v Ax Con Rebels 369 (H Harris 77),
Thorn Drifters 382 (C Wyatt 83) v Lamb Spartans 377 (C Miller 75).

Division Two

New Inn Z 339 (B Mawdsley 65) v Thorncombe A 337 (B Bartlett 64),
Ax Inn XR 342 (T Pratt 70) v Kings Arms Seaton 330 (K Massey 66),
Red Lion D 403 (P Vipond 75) v Colcombe A 375 (A Hurford 75),
Axe Vale Stars 352 (D Baker, K Tozer63) v Kings Arms Stk B 367 (Kev, Mike 67).

Division Three

New Inn Kilm A 321 (N Cook 58) v Gerrard B 360 (J Salter 68),
Old Inn Kilm B 341 (J Smart 69) v Lamb D 323 (P Burrough 65),
Gerrard D 294 (D Randall 57) v Seaton FC 328 (P Harrison 61),
Colcombe B 366 (K Mitcham, K Wyatt 67) v Ship Spreaders 329 (K Woody 64).

Division Four

George Chdstk 359 (P Herrod 65) v Tuckers Luck 329 (P Roberts 61),
Seaton BC 290 (R Rowley 56) v Gerrard C 292 (B Richards 56),
Kingfisher A 327 (K Thomas 61) v Red Lion B 326 (P Margetts 57),

Division One

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Con Rebels	13	9	2	2	20
Gs	13	9	1	3	19
Kings Arms A	13	9	0	4	18
Old Inn Kil A	13	7	1	5	15
Lamb A	13	7	0	6	14
Lamb Sp	13	7	0	6	14
Red Lion RD	12	6	0	6	12
Axe Jokers	13	5	2	6	12
New Inn Kil C	12	5	1	6	11
Thorncombe B	13	5	1	7	11
Gerrard A	12	4	2	6	10
Axe Vale A	13	4	0	9	8
Thorn Drs	13	4	0	9	8
Harbour Feds	12	3	0	9	6

Division Two

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Axe Inn XR (T)	12	9	0	3	18
Colcombe A	12	8	0	4	16
Red Lion D	12	7	1	4	15
C'baggers GA	11	7	0	4	14
Kings Ar S'ton A	12	6	0	6	12
Thorncombe A	12	6	0	6	12
Axevale Stars	12	6	0	6	12
Con Club A	11	6	0	5	12
Kings Arms B	11	5	0	6	10
New Inn Z (T)	12	5	0	7	10
Tuckers Maggs	12	4	1	7	9
W Hart Wilm A	11	3	0	8	6
Lamb C (T)	10	2	0	8	4

Division Three

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Axe Inn A	12	10	0	2	20
Old Inn Kil B	12	9	0	3	18
Hawk HC (T)	11	6	0	5	12
Gerrard B	12	6	0	6	12
New Inn Kil A	12	6	0	6	12
Gerrard D (T)	12	6	0	6	12
Lamb D (T)	11	6	0	5	12
Colcombe B	12	5	1	6	11
E K'fishers	11	5	0	6	10
S'ton Tn	12	5	0	7	10
Ship Sps	12	5	0	7	10
Red Lion C (T)	10	4	1	5	9
Old Inn Hawk A	11	0	2	9	2

Division Four

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Geo C'stock	12	8	0	4	16
Old Inn Hawk B	12	7	1	4	15
Tuckers Luck (T)	12	7	1	4	15
Harbour Hawks	10	7	0	3	14
Tuckers A (T)	11	7	0	4	14
Gerrard C (T)	11	7	0	4	13
New Inn Kil Ha(T)	10	6	0	4	12
Tuckers B	11	4	2	5	10
K'fisher No(T)	10	5	0	5	9
Red Lion B (T)	12	4	0	8	8
Harbour rotary	11	2	2	7	6
S'ton Bowls A	12	4	0	8	6
K'fisher A	12	2	0	10	3

Sport

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AXMINSTER INDOOR BOWLS

THE Ladies of Axminster Indoor Bowls Club continued their fine form in the County Foxlands Competition when they beat Budleigh by 95 to 68 shots with a top home rink of Lilian Lovatt, Pam Clark, Marion Harris, and Sheila Martin 25-15) and a top away rink of Judith Moffitt, Chris Hobbs, Janet Parsons, and Margaret Crompton (37-14).

The men also did well to beat Honiton in the County Over 60s' League (93-82) with a top home four of Bob Sherborne, Paul Moffitt, Ken Hickman, and George Stockley (36-16) and top away side of David Harris, Philip Stephens, Eric Skeemer, and John Gough (25-21).

However the men did not fare so well in their County Interclub match with Budleigh losing a close game 82-99 with the only winners being David Harris, Brian Downes, Brian Parsons, and Charlie Barber (31-22).

In the mixed friendlies we lost another close match with Donyatt (55-65) at home with all rinks losing narrowly but did well to win at Yeovil 61-44 with Joan Quick, Ann Clayton, David Harris, and Brian Parsons our top rink (23-8).

Unfortunately the weather has caused two cancellations - our County 'Top Club' game with Padbrook Park and the mixed friendly with Dunkeswell.

Lucky 13th for Kelf in Great Tarmouth run

MIDWINTER DREAM FOR OTHERS

THE Gorleston Cliffs — near Great Yarmouth — park run was able to take place last Saturday as the lower beach was unfrozen.

Axe Valley Runners' Dave Kelf finished 13th in 24:53 with an age grading of 66.78 per cent.

Apparently this age grading was better than the winner's, but not as good as the first lady.

On Saturday night five of the club's runners, plus two guests, experienced the best Midwinter Dream run yet with 18-miles of fantastic snowy, moonlit off-road running, two pubs and a soup stop.

Alex Todd and Garry Perratt kicked off proceedings an hour early by dropping Garry's car containing some leek and potato soup at Hangman's Stone and running back to Seaton via Morganhayes, Holyford and Couchill Woods.

They met Paul Johns, Phil Bayliss, Graham Newton and Maiden Newton Runners' Lin and Martin Lascelles for a spot of pre-run refreshment at the Hook and Parrot before heading west.

Beer Head by moonlight, crunching through the snow with torches off was sublime.

Branscombe Beach, with the pebbles frozen to each other, was not. A selection of drinks at the Fountainhead refuelled the group on their way up through Beckham Woods and to Blackberry Castle for some real cross country bashing through the trees. They didn't, but did find the lane to which the path would have led so all was well and the merry gang headed on to Bovey Down and up to the soup stop.

It was hard work getting going again and the tough miles were beginning to tell on all but Alex, who is impervious to exhaustion, and Graham, who must have had an additive in his coffee at the Fountainhead.

Morganhayes and Jobblehayes woods came and went and the seven descended to Heathayne with the thermometer plunging from around -5 at Hangman's Stone to -10 at the Coly.

After a quick drink in the Kingfisher the gang were somewhat less merry than they had been and most took a shortcut directly back to Seaton.

SHORT MAT BOWLS

MUSBURY have made the most progress in the Evening League with two home wins, 8-0 and 6-2, and they are now up three places to third with the same points but a better shot difference than West Hill who drew at Awliscombe.

In the second division wins for Sidbury, 7-1 away, and Membury, 6-2 at home, consolidated their places.

Awliscombe move up a place after their draw at Sidford and are now second behind Sidbury.

In the Afternoon League there were good results at Awliscombe where the "B" team moved to top place with their 5-3 win at home, and the "A" team also gained a place winning 8-0.

In the second division Sidbury's 7-1 home win moved them up four places and they are now top.

The knock-out already has eight confirmed participants with a number of clubs yet to confirm so we should have more teams than last year so a preliminary round will be required.

I will advise clubs of the draw details early in the new year and I will be sending out invitation to our 2011 Open Pairs/Terry Trott Fours event.

Division One

	P	W	D	LSD	Pts
Colyton	5	4	0	1 87	8
Beer	5	3	1	1 86	7
Musbury	6	3	0	3 30	6
West Hill	6	2	2	2 3	6
Awlis A	6	1	2	3-58	4
S'ton Cliff	6	1	1	4-148	3
Division Two					
Sidbury	5	5	0	0154	10
Awlis B	6	3	2	1 36	8
Upottery	6	3	1	2123	7
Sidford	6	2	1	3-92	5
Membury	6	1	1	4-74	3
Musbury B	5	0	1	4-147	1
Afternoon League					
Division One					
Awlis B	7	5	1	1116	11
Beer	6	4	1	1108	9
S'ton Cliff B	5	3	0	2 26	6
Upottery	6	2	1	3 7	5
Chard	6	2	1	3-49	5
St Teresas	6	2	1	3-55	5
Lyme Regis	6	2	1	3-62	5
Awlis A	6	2	0	4-17	4
Colyton	6	1	2	3-74	4
Division Two					
Sidbury	6	3	1	2 53	7
S'ton Cliff A	5	3	0	2 77	6
Combe St Nich	4	3	0	1 55	6
Sidford A	4	3	0	1 36	6
Musbury	5	2	2	1 6	6
Sidford B	6	2	0	4-42	4
Hemyock	5	1	1	3-112	3
S'ton Cliff C	5	1	0	4-73	2

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DEVON & EXETER LEAGUE ROUND-UP

All 61 D&E matches are postponed

THE entire Devon and Exeter League programme of 61 matches was postponed on Saturday because of snow and ice.

The biggest casualty was the huge East Devon Premier derby between Beer Albion and Seaton Town at Furzebrake, where a sizeable crowd had been anticipated.

Cup heroes Sidmouth Town were also frustrated as they wanted to get their league progress up to date. It is not the first time the League has been totally blanked out, but it was the first time new fixtures secretary Merv Joslin has had to spend glued to the telephone to log the cancellations.

Current Devon and Exeter Premier division leaders Seaton Town were denied the chance to extend their three point lead at neighbours Beer Albion when, like the rest of the league, they were snowed off.

The match would have been high on Seaton's priority for revenge as Beer who were also promoted last season as runners up behind the first division champions, were one of just three teams to beat Seaton last term.

Yet Beer still finished a massive 24 points behind their fiercest neighbours and rivals. Seaton have never won the Premier championship but there is a strong feeling among their Premier colleagues that this could be about to change.

Seaton have won nine matches in succession, are superbly organised by manager Josh Stunnell, and their admirers grow match by match.

No one at Seaton is getting carried away by their success, but they are looking forward to more of the same in 2011.

If Seaton do capture their first ever Premier title, the sadness would be that the late Gerald Gosling, *Pulman's* sports reporter and long-time Seaton supporter, player, manager and author of their 90-year book just issued, is no longer here to celebrate what could be the Colyford Road side's finest hour.

So, although there is still a long way to go, just who are the Seasiders' main rivals?

The strongest shout may come from Sidmouth Town and St Martins. Both have a Premier title under their belts, the Saints winning for the only time in 2009, and the vikings as far back as 1968, a 42 year absence they cannot wait to end.

Both clubs have good backroom staff and a big team spirit, and both want to progress into the South West Peninsula League (SWPL) as soon as they can, but as Premier champions.

The only other candidates in the picture are Clyst Valley and Newtown, neither of which has ever captured the league's biggest crown, and both would probably feel they are a little bit short to go the distance. However both clubs are run superbly and if they do get going have the ability to succeed.

Outsiders have to be the University Res and Topsham Town. The college track record for Premier titles is seven, but that was by their first eleven now in the SWPL.

Prior to that it was St Lukes College who carried their name and won seven championship between 1950 and 1963 before merging under the University name.

Topsham have never won the Premier title and you have to go back to 1911 and 1913 when Topsham St Margarets won the Senior title when that was the top division. It would be something special if the current Topsham team could bridge the 100 year gap.

Reigning champions Thorverton already look out of the race, as do Heavitree Social Utd who have won six titles since the war including as recently as 2006.

Budleigh Salterton and Alphington have five titles between them, but that was their current SWPL teams, and their current Premier side does not really look strong enough to emulate that feat just yet.

Reserve teams Willand Rovers and Wellington Town have never won the Premier title, and neither have Beer Albion, Hatherleigh Town, or Exmouth Amateurs. Of the five, the fishermen have the strongest case, but even the staunchest Albion supporter would question they could be in the mix at the end of the season.

Wherever the title goes it looks like being another close run season with every team in the top flight capable of beating any other.

PERRY STREET LEAGUE ROUND-UP AND CUP MATCH NEWS

SEASIDERS HOPE FOR SILVERWARE IN MONDAY CUP

By KEVIN FAHEY
sport.pulmans@tindlenews.co.uk

Coronation Cup preview

LYME REGIS V PERRY STREET
At Slade Cross
(Combe St Nicholas FC)
Monday, December 27th, 11am

LYME Regis face a searching test if they are to end a glorious 2010 with another piece of silverware for their groaning mantelpiece at Davey Fort.

Robin Townsend's side defend their Coronation Cup at Slade's Cross on Monday (December 27th, KO 11am) against Perry Street, who swept aside Ilminster Town Reserves 4-0 in their delayed semi final.

As reigning Premier Division League champions and holders of both the Challenge Cup and the Coronation Cup, Lyme will start favourites even if they have yet to find their best form this season.

In addition Townsend will have to change his side with three players currently Down Under supporting England on the Ashes tour and others unavailable so he is taking nothing for granted.

"I think we will be missing six first team players for the cup final," said Townsend. "Goalkeeper Ashley Caddy and Steve Batey are in Australia watching the Ashes and Dave Robinson is also travelling Down Under.

"Matt Lang has family commitments, Mark Batey injured his medial ligaments in our last game and is doubtful while Julian Simier is back in France for the Christmas period.

"That is a good chunk of our side but I am confident that the guys coming in will do well for us."

Goalkeeper Will Meech, Harvey Brimscombe, Will Street and Ryan Fifer are just four of the talented reserve team players who will be promoted into the cup final squad with Townsend having no qualms about thrusting them into such a big game.

"My philosophy is that it doesn't matter how old or young a player is the only question is whether he is good enough," added Townsend.

"I know these young lads are good enough and now it is their chance to step up to the plate. This cup final might not be the biggest we have a chance of winning this season (Townsend has his sights on the Dorset Intermediate Cup) but having reached the final I don't want to lose it. You reach any final and you want to win."

Lyme Regis have already faced Perry Street twice this season, beating them 2-1 after extra time on route to winning the Chard Hospital in August and then 3-2 in the league the following month.

"I certainly won't under-estimate Perry Street," stressed Townsend. "I'm sure a lot of people thought Ilminster Town would beat them to reach the final but that 4-0 was a great result.

"I'm sure their manager will be telling them it could be their best chance of winning something this season and in a one-off game anything is possible so our attitude will have to be right. Hopefully it should be a cracking game."

Those two closely-fought matches have left Perry Street manager Dave Ellis confident ahead of Monday's match.

"Lyme will start favourites but we have had some very good games with them over the past two or three years and there has never been more than the odd goal in it," said Ellis.

"I am as confident as I can be about this cup final and while we don't kid ourselves that the draw has been kind to us throughout the competition the lads will take a lot of confidence into the final from the way we beat Ilminster in the semi finals.

"We are going to be up for it because the players know it will be their best chance of winning something this season."

Lyme manager Townsend is also looking to defend Challenge title

By KEVIN FAHEY
sport.pulmans@tindlenews.co.uk

LYME Regis will be hoping on Monday to complete the second step on an unprecedented clean sweep of trophies this season.

Having already won the Chard Hospital Cup in August manager Robin Townsend has guided his side to the final of the Coronation Cup against Perry Street at Combe St Nicholas' Slade's Cross Ground.

Townsend will be hoping to end a successful 2010 with another piece of silverware but won't be happy with just those two trophies.

The club is also defending their Perry Street League Premier Division title and Challenge Cup holders and as if that wasn't enough Townsend has added the extra challenge of reaching the final of the Dorset Intermediate Cup having reached the semi finals last week.

It is a daunting target set by Townsend but he believes his players are capable of creating a little piece of history.

"Since I have been manager here (succeeding Rob Thom) we have only lost three or four games and I think the committee are delighted with that," said Townsend.

"No-one can say we are not doing good things here but now we are approaching Christmas it is time for us to step it up a bit.

"We haven't been playing that well so far but still getting the results which is the sign of a good team. But I have told the players they need to start playing better and step it up with a lot of big games to come.

"We had a fantastic year last season and hopefully we can do it again."

FIRST WITH THE SPORT
(EVEN IN THE SNOW)

Sport

FOOTBALL RESULTS, TABLES & FIXTURES... SPORTING NEWS

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DEVON AND EXETER LEAGUE

RESULTS

Saturday, December 11th
PREMIER
Alphington 3, Heavitree Social 1.
Budleigh Salterton 3, St Martins 2.
Clyst Valley 2, Beer Albion 1.
Exmouth Amateurs 2, Willand 2.
Newtown 5, Hatherleigh Tn 2.
Seaton Tn 2, Topsham Tn 1.
University 3, Thorverton 1.
DIVISION ONE
Bow AAC 1, Sidbury Utd 2.
Feniton 1, Elmore 1.
Halwill 3, Honiton Tn 1 (aban).
Morchard Bishop 2, Chagford 0.
University 4, Tipton St John 1.
DIVISION TWO
Beacon Knights 2, Royal Marines 2.
Broadclyst v. North Tawton, post.
Culm Utd 2, Colyton 2.
Sidmouth Tn v. Uplowman Ath, post.
University , Axminster Tn .
DIVISION THREE
Countess WD v. Sandford, post. .
Crescent v. Exmouth A mat, post.
Dawlish Utd 1, Lympstone 0.
Pinhoe 8, Dawlish Tn 2.
South Zeal Utd 2, Offwell Rgs 3.
Topsham Tn 2, Chard Tn 4.
Upottery v. Winkleigh, post.
DIVISION FOUR
Bickleigh 8, Kentisbeare 1.
Colaton Raleigh 4, Newton St C 2.
Lapford 4, Tedburn St Mary 0.
Newtown 4, Seaton Tn 1.
Okehampton Arg 4, Sidbury Utd 0.
St Martins 1, Crediton Utd 9.
Thorverton 4, Hemyock 3.
DIVISION FIVE
AFC Sidford 2, Heavitree Social 3.
Beer Albion 4, Broadclyst 2.
Dolphin 1, Lords XI 2.
Feniton 4, Alphington 3.
University 8, Dunkeswell Rov 1.
Westexe Rov v. Cullompton Rgs, p.
DIVISION SIX
Awliscombe Utd 2, Axmouth Utd 1.
Bampton v. Culm Utd, post.
Chagford 2, Prior 5.
Hatherleigh Tn 5, Exmouth Tn 4.
Honiton Tn 4, Silverton 0.
Uau Exeter 1, Cheriton Fitzpaine 3.
Uplowman Ath 2, Clyst Valley 2.
DIVISION SEVEN
Amory Park 7, Newton St Cyres 1.
Folly Gate 2, Chulmleigh 2.
Hemyock 1, Bradninch 4.
North Tawton v. Amory Argyle, post.
Sandford 1, Countess Wear Dyn 1.
Topsham Tn 1, Langdon 1.
DIVISION EIGHT
Ch Fitzpaine 1, Okehampton 3.
Colyton 5, Lapford 0.
Langdon 1, Feniton 6.
Lympstone 3, Met Office 1.
Otterton 0, Offwell Rgs 4.
Tipton St John 2, Topsham Tn 1.
Winkleigh 0, Morchard Bishop 7.

PREMIER

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Seaton Tn	10	9	0	1	13	27
St Martins	12	7	3	2	14	24
Newtown	10	6	3	1	16	21
Clyst Vall	13	6	3	4	9	21
University	11	5	4	2	5	19
Sidmouth Tn	9	5	3	1	10	18
Beer Albion	9	4	2	3	5	14
HeavSocUtd	13	3	5	5	-2	14
Bud Salt	12	4	2	6	-7	14
Topsham Tn	10	3	4	3	4	13
Thorverton	11	4	1	6	-6	13
Willand Rov	11	3	3	5	-10	12
Hatherleigh	11	3	2	6	-13	11
Alphington	11	2	2	7	-8	8
Wellington	10	1	4	5	-12	7
Exmth Ams	13	1	3	9	-18	6

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Morch Bish	10	9	1	0	24	28
E Budleigh	10	8	0	2	18	24
Chagford	12	6	1	5	13	19
University 2	9	6	1	2	10	19
HevSoUtd 2	12	6	0	6	-1	18
Witheridge	8	5	2	1	7	17
Barnstaple	6	5	0	1	18	15
Bow AAC	8	4	1	3	3	13
Sidbury Utd	9	4	0	5	-1	12
Cullomp Ran	8	4	0	4	-3	12
Tipton SJ	9	4	0	5	-6	12
Feniton	10	2	2	6	-13	8
Halwill	8	2	0	6	-11	6
Honiton Tn	11	0	1	10	-26	1
Elmore	10	0	1	9	-32	1

DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Culm Utd	11	7	4	0	17	25
Beac Kghts	11	6	3	2	13	21
West Rov	10	5	4	1	15	19
Phoenix	8	5	1	2	19	16
Uplow Ath	9	4	4	1	2	16
Broadclyst	12	3	5	4	-4	14
Newtown 2	11	4	2	5	-6	14
Sidmth Tn 2	10	3	4	3	7	13
Colyton	10	4	1	5	1	13
University 3	9	3	3	3	6	12
ExeCiv Ser	8	3	1	4	1	10
Royal Mar	7	2	3	2	-2	9
Clyst Vall 2	9	2	2	5	-6	8
Nth Tawton	9	1	2	6	-13	4
Axm Tn	10	0	1	9	-50	0

DIVISION THREE

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Pinhoe	11	9	2	0	38	29
Topsham Tn 2	10	6	2	2	18	20
Sandford	8	6	1	1	17	19
Dawlish Utd	9	6	1	2	17	19
Chard Tn	7	6	0	1	16	18
Upottery	10	5	2	3	14	17
Sth Zeal Utd	9	6	0	3	8	17
Winkleigh	10	4	1	5	-6	13
Offwell Ran	10	4	0	6	-5	12
Bampton	9	3	2	4	-8	11
C Wear Dy	10	3	1	6	-13	10
Lympstone	12	2	2	8	-10	8
Crescent	11	2	2	7	-22	8
Dawlish Tn	9	1	2	6	-15	5
Exmth Ams2	9	0	0	9	-49	0

DIVISION FOUR

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Crediton Utd	10	8	1	1	28	25
Bidkleigh	10	5	2	3	13	17
Thorverton 2	10	5	2	3	3	17
Hemyock	10	5	1	4	15	16
Ted St Mary	11	5	1	5	12	16
Kentisbeare	13	5	1	7	-15	16
Colaton Ral	8	5	0	3	2	15
Lapford	11	5	0	6	-3	15
Seaton Tn 2	10	5	0	5	-4	15
Oke Arg	11	5	0	6	-10	15
Newtown 3	9	3	3	3	-7	12
SidburyUtd2	10	3	2	5	-1	11
New St Cyr	10	3	1	6	-9	10
St Martins 2	7	0	2	5	-24	2

DIVISION FIVE

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Woodbury	9	7	1	1	33	22
Dolphin	8	7	0	1	28	21
Beer Albion 2	12	7	0	5	-4	21
University 4	7	6	1	0	24	19
Whipton/Pin	9	5	3	1	21	18
Samp Pev	9	6	0	3	9	18
HeSocUtd 3	9	5	2	2	6	17
AFC Sidford	10	5	1	4	6	16
Alphington 2	12	5	0	7	-3	15
Cull Ran 2	11	4	1	6	-9	13
Dunk Rov	12	4	0	8	-18	12
Lords X1	11	3	2	6	-9	11
Feniton 2	10	2	0	8	-20	6
West Rov 2	10	1	3	6	-28	6
Broadclyst 2	11	1	0	10	-36	3

DIVISION SIX

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Exmouth Tn	9	8	0	1	39	24
Axmth Utd	10	8	0	2	21	24
Clyst Vall 3	12	7	1	4	17	22
Awlis Utd	10	6	3	1	14	21
Culm Utd 2	10	7	0	3	10	21
Hatherl'gh 2	8	6	1	1	14	19
E Budleigh 2	9	5	1	3	5	16
Uplow Ath 2	10	4	2	4	-4	13
Honiton Tn 2	11	3	3	5	-7	11
UAU Exeter	10	3	0	7	-13	9
Priory	11	3	0	8	-16	9
Chagford 2	11	2	2	7	-8	8
Cherit Fitz	7	2	1	4	-12	7
Bampton 2	10	1	1	8	-23	4
Silverton	10	1	1	8	-37	3

DIVISION SEVEN

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
AmPakRan	10	9	1	0	42	28
Topsham Tn 3	10	8	2	0	28	26
Boa AAC 2	9	7	1	1	18	22
Dawlish Utd 2	11	7	0	4	24	21
Sandofrd 2	10	6	2	2	-2	20
Amorty Arg	8	4	1	3	3	13
Hemyock 2	9	4	1	4	-2	13
Langdon	8	3	2	3	4	11
Folly Gate	10	3	2	5	-17	11
Chulmleigh	7	3	1	3	8	10
Nth Tawton 2	11	2	1	8	-18	7
Bradninch	10	2	1	7	-25	7
Halwill 2	9	1	3	5	-7	6
Halwill 2	9	1	3	5	-7	6
C W Dy 2	12	1	2	9	-22	5
Ne StCyr 2	12	3	0	9	-34	4

DIVISION EIGHT

	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Mor Bish 2	11	8	2	1	33	26
Tops Tn 4	13	8	2	3	28	26
Oke Arg 2	9	8	0	1	17	24
Lymps 2	12	7	3	2	13	24
Feniton 3	13	6	4	3	12	22
Tipton SJ 2	12	7	3	2	13	24
Offwell 2	10	5	3	2	20	18
Colyton 2	9	5	1	3	17	16
Ted St M 2	10	4	2	4	-19	14
Winkleigh 2	10	3	1	6	-19	10
Cherit Fitz 2	11	2	3	6	-13	9
Otterton	11	1	3	7	-23	6
Langdon 2	12	1	3	8	-25	6
Met Office	10	1	2	7	-20	5
Lapford 2	11	0	2	9	-29	2

FIXTURES

Monday, January 3rd
PREMIER
Alphington v Wellington Tn
Beer Albion v Budleigh Salterton
Exmouth Ams v Newtown
Hatherleigh v Clyst Valley
Sidmouth Tn v Topsham Tn
St Martins v Seaton Tn
Thorverton v Willand Rovers
DIVISION ONE
Barnstaple v Morchard Bishop
Chagford v Witheridge
East Budleigh v Bow AAC
Elmore v Feniton
Halwill v Cullompton Ran
Honiton Tn v Sidbury Utd
Tipton St John v Heav Soc Utd 2
DIVISION TWO
Axminster Tn v Colyton
Broadclyst v Exeter Civ Ser
Newtown 2 v Sidmouth Tn 2
North Tawton v Phoenix
Uplowman Ath v Westexe Rovers
DIVISION THREE
Bampton v Pinhoe
Chard Tn v South Zeal Utd
Lympstone v Upottery
Offwell Ran v Exmouth Ams 2
Sandford v Dawlish Tn
Topsham Tn 2 v Dawlish Utd
Winkleigh v Crescent
DIVISION FOUR
Bickleigh v Newton St Cyres
Colaton Raleigh v Kentisbeare
Crediton Utd v Newtown 3
Okehampton Arg v Lapford
Seaton Tn 2 v St Martins 2
Sidbury Utd 2 v Tedburn St Mary
DIVISION FIVE
Alphington 2 v Heav Soc Utd 3
Cullompton Ran 2 v AFC Sidford
Dunkeswell Rovers v Feniton 2
Sampford Peverell v Westexe Rov 2
DIVISION SIX
Cheriton Fitzpaine v Hatherleigh 2
Clyst Valley 3 v Axmouth Utd
Culm Utd 2 v East Budleigh 2
Exmouth Tn v Awliscombe Utd
Silverton v Bampton 2
UAU Exeter v Honiton Tn 2
DIVISION SEVEN
Bow AAC 2 v Newton St Cyres 2
Chulmleigh v Sandford 2
C Wear Dynamoes 2 v North Tawton 2
Dawlish Utd 2 v Amorty Argyle
Langdon v Halwill 2
DIVISION EIGHT
Colyton 2 v Winkleigh 2
Langdon 2 v Okehampton Arg 2
Lapfor 2 v Offwell Ran 2
Morchard Bish 2 v Otterton
Tedburn St Mary 2 v Feniton 3
Tipton St John 2 v Cheriton Fitzpaine 2

PERRY STREET LEAGUE

RESULTS

Saturday, December 11th
PREMIER DIVISION
Merriott Rov , Combe St Nic Res 2
Misterton 3, Barrington 3
DIVISION ONE
Lyme Reg Res 0, Crewkerne Tn 3
Thorncombe 3, Ilminster Town A 2
DIVISION TWO
Chard Ran 2, Pymore 6
Hawkchch Utd 3, Shepton Beau 5
Hinton St Geo 3, Uplyme 1
South Peth Res 2, Dow Wake & Don 5
DIVISION THREE
Drimpton 2, Farway United Res 2
Lyme Regis A 1, Chard United 2
Mill Rise Res 3, Winsham Utd Res 4
DIVISION FOUR
Shep Beau Res 8, Chard Ran Res 0

PREMIER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Merriott Rov	9	8	0	1	36	17	24
Sth Peth	7	7	0	0	34	7	21
Beaminster	8	7	0	1	25	5	21
Lyme Regis	6	4	1	1	18	8	13
Ilm Tn Res	5	4	0	1	10	7	12
Barrington	9	2	3	4	22	29	9
Farway Utd	7	2	1	4	20	24	7
Misterton	9	1	3	5	14	33	6
Perry Street	7	1	1	5	10	19	4
W&M Chinn	7	0	2	5	9	30	2
CbeStNicRe	10	0	1	9	12	31	1

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wins Utd	7	7	0	0	27	8	21
Crewk Tn	8	6	1	1	35	12	19
Millwey Rise	6	5	1	0	28	6	16
Netherbury	7	5	0	2	24	13	15
Perry St Res	6	4	0	2	18	21	12
Thorncombe	11	4	0	7	20	33	12
Forton Ran	8	3	1	4	19	22	10
Norton Ath	9	3	1	5	17	28	10
Ilm Tn A	9	3	0	6	21	34	9
Ly Reg Res	8	1	2	5	14	19	5
Charmouth	9	0	0	9	8	35	0

DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Beam Res	10	7	2	1	39	16	23
Hin St Geo	9	6	0	3	25	20	18
Crewk Ran	10	5	2	3	29	26	17
Shep Beau	8	4	4	0	21	9	16
Dow & Don	10	5	1	4	26	19	16
Uplyme	10	4	2	4	43	25	14
Pymore	10	4	2	4	25	34	14
Sth Peth Res	9	3	2	4	21	20	11
Hawk Utd	10	3	1	6	23	31	10
For Ran Res	8	1	1	6	13	39	4
Chard Ran	8	0	1	7	13	39	1

DIVISION THREE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Mist Res	8	8	0	0	35	12	24
Luso Chard	10	7	0	3	48	17	21
Chard Utd	10	6	2	2	32	15	20
Crew Tn Res	8	6	0	2	43	20	18
C'beStNichA	10	4	1	5	21	27	13
Far Utd Res	10	3	2	5	14	40	11
Drimpton	9	2	3	4	13	40	9
Lyme Reg A	10	2	2	6	16	23	8
Wins Utd Res	8	1	1	6	18	32	4
Mill Rise Res	9	1	1	7	12	26	4

DIVISION FOUR

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hin StGeRes	9	7	1	1	37	16	22
Shep B Res	11	6	1	4	30	30	19
W&M ChRes	8	6	0	2	49	17	18
C'beStNichB	9	6	0	3	30	26	18
Way Hounds	7	5	0	2	16	15	15
ChaUtd Res	10	4	1	5	24	25	13
Ilm Tn B	9	4	0	5	35	24	11
Thorn Res	8	3	1	4	11	18	10
Barring Res	8	2	2	4	19	25	8
HawUtdRes	11	1	2	8	14	46	5
Cha Ran Res	8	1	0	7	13	36	3

SOUTH WEST PENINSULA

RESULTS

Saturday, December 11th
DIVISION ONE EAST
Axminster Town 0, Appledore 3
Ottery St Mary 0, Exeter University 4

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Appledore	14	9	2	3	11	29	
Liverton Utd	12	8	4	0	29	28	
Bud Salt	12	7	3	2	17	24	
Teignmouth	13	6	4	3	9	22	
Stoke Gab	13	6	3	4	1	21	
New Abb Sp	17	5	5	7	-7	20	
Bickleigh	13	6	1	6	-1	19	
Exe Civ Ser	15	5	4	6	-13	19	
Exmouth Tn	12	5	3	4	10	18	
Galm Gents	11	5	3	3	2	18	
Exeter Univ	11	4	5	2	10	17	
Tot & Dart	11	5	1	5	0	16	
Ottery St M	16	5	1	10	-22	16	
Alphington	14	4	3	7	-1	15	
Cred Utd	15	3	1	11	-21	10	
Axmin Tn	13	0	3	10	-24	3	

FIXTURES

Monday, December 27th
DIVISION ONE EAST
Ottery St Mary v Axminster Tn

CORONATION CUP - FINAL

FIXTURES

Monday, December 27th
Final
Lyme Regis v Perry Street
at Combe St Nicholas - 11am Kick Off

DIVISION ONE CUP - FINAL

FIXTURES

Monday, January 3rd
FINAL
Crewkerne Town v Millwey Rise
at Thorncombe - 2pm Kick Off

THERE WERE NO FOOTBALL FIXTURES LAST WEEKEND DUE TO SNOW
Keep up with all the latest sport for free online at www.axminster-today.co.uk

HONITON NETBALL CLUB

Netball's second division succumbs to poor weather conditions but club wishes happy Christmas to its players and all those involved

FOR the third week running the weather weather has taken its toll on the netball fixtures, with games at Honiton once again being cancelled due to slippery court conditions.

This meant that only the first division indoor games at Colyton took place.

Division One
'Visions 18, Weather Girls 19
Wasps 32, Bo-peeps 26

With neither of the top two in action Wasps had a chance to improve their title chances when they met Bo-Peeps for the first time this season.

Bo-Peeps started really well, but by quarter time Wasps had caught up and the score was 9-9.

In the second quarter the Wasps centre was injured causing a team shuffle, but they still came out in front at 16-13 at half way.

In the third period Bo Peeps fought back with Faye Webb shooting well at GA, but wasps held on to a slender lead at 21-20 going into the final period.

In the fourth quarter Wasps again moved their team positions around and this seemed to pay off with Nicola field shooting well and increasing their lead to end the evening winners by 32-26.

Bo-Peeps gained a well deserved point whilst Wasps moved up to second place.

The title race is still a three-team affair, whilst any one of the bottom four teams is in danger of relegation.

The second game of the night saw 'Visions paired with the Weather Girls for the second time this season.

When they had first met 'Visions had recorded a comfortable win, but tonight it was to be different.

With Jenny Fotheringham playing well for the Girls they ended the first quarter 6-4 in front.

The game was obviously going to be a tight one. At the half way mark the Weather Girls advantage was reduced to a single goal by 'Visions.

The third and fourth quarters were even and went goal for goal and although Jo Leitch worked hard for 'Visions they could not get even, with the Weather Girls holding on to win by a single goal – 19-18.

This win moved them up into fifth place, appoint above Bo-Peeps and a point behind 'Visions.

Division One

Flamingos (1)	9	+162	23
Wasps (3)	8	+92	21
Keeley's Angels (2)	8	+90	21
'Visions (4)	9	-57	13
Weather Girls (6)	9	-95	12
Bo-Peeps (5)	10	-81	11
Uplowman (7)	7	-111	7

There were no matches in Division Two due to the weather.

Honiton Netball Club wishes all the *Pulman's View* readers a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.

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RELEGATION FIGHT

Tigers can boost their chances of staying up if they beat Otters in east Devon derby

By KEVIN FAHEY
sport.pulmans@tindlenews.co.uk

Carlsberg Peninsula South West League Division One East

OTTERY ST MARY V AXMINSTER TOWN preview Monday, December 27th KO 11am

AXMINSTER Town can give their fight to avoid relegation a huge lift if they beat local rivals Ottery St Mary in Monday's clash at Washbrook Meadows.

Seven points adrift at the foot of the South West Peninsula Division One East Tigers boss James Bennett accepts the situation looks grim as the year comes to an end with the season reaching the halfway point but he hasn't given up hope yet.

"Yes, it will be a hell of a challenge to stay up but I am staying positive," said Bennett.

"The first half of the season has been a struggle so it would be great if we can get a festive win against Ottery and then push on from there. Who knows if we can put three or four wins together we would haul ourselves back into the pack."

The Otters have their problems too and Dane Bunney's side have slid down the league after a poor series of results. Going into Monday's match they are fourth from bottom but 13 points clear of Axminster by virtue of five wins and a draw.

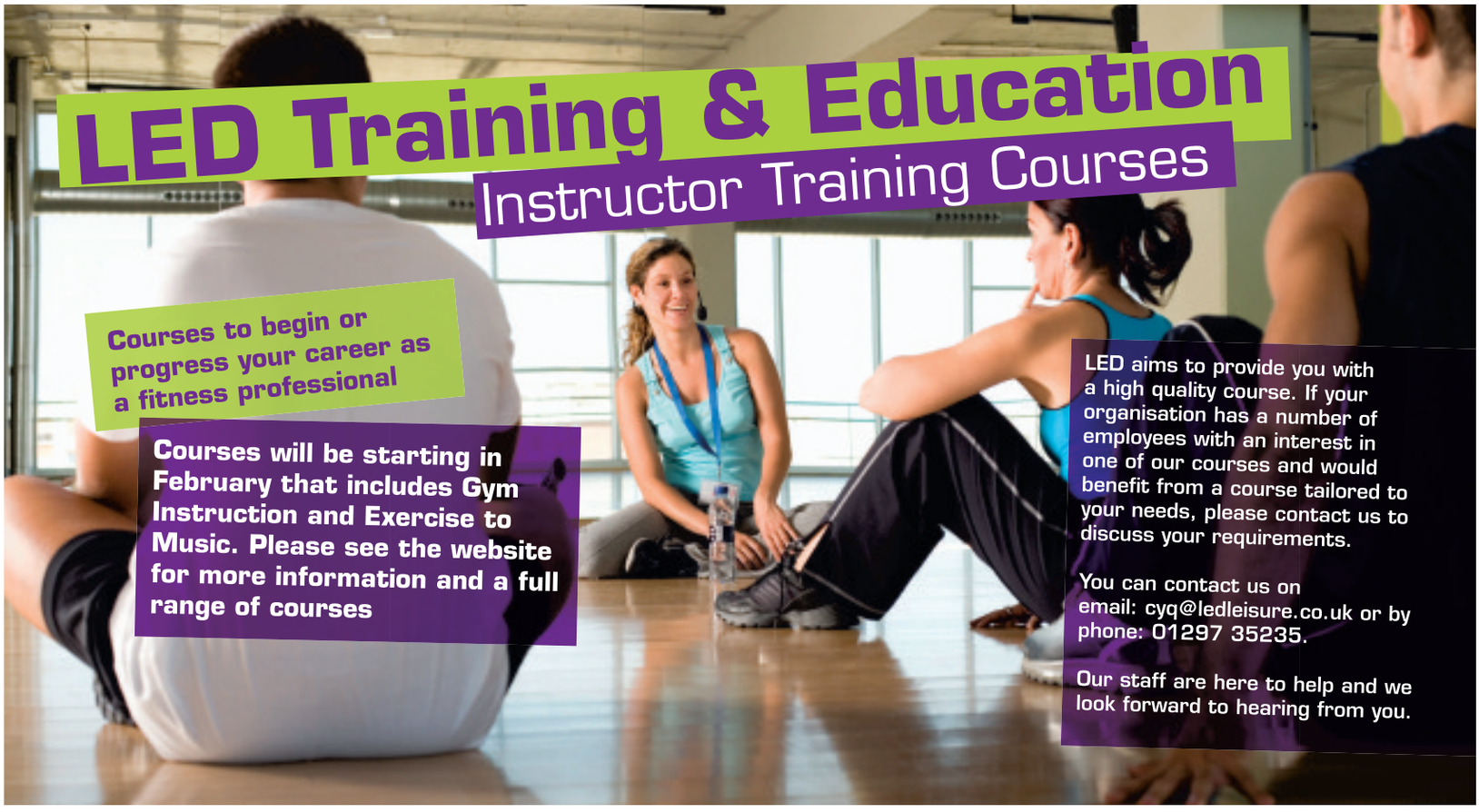
They desperately need a win to ensure they are not sucked into the relegation scrap so the stakes are high.

"This is a big game and one we definitely need to get three points from," added Bennett.

"Ottery seem to be falling down towards us so to get three points off them would be a big lift. We have a mixed record against them in recent years, winning a few and also suffering some bad defeats but I have a full squad available for this match and if we can win this then maybe the tide will start to turn in our fortunes.

"I still feel we can pull ourselves out of the mire."

FIRST WITH THE LOCAL SPORT NEWS



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